



(12) **United States Patent**  
**Bae et al.**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,401,149 B2**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **\*Jul. 26, 2016**

(54) **IMAGE DISPLAY APPARATUS AND METHOD OF CONTROLLING THE SAME**

(71) Applicant: **SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO., LTD.**, Suwon-si (KR)

(72) Inventors: **Dae Gyu Bae**, Suwon-si (KR); **Tae Hwan Cha**, Yongin-si (KR); **Ho Jeong You**, Suwon-si (KR)

(73) Assignee: **SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO., LTD.**, Suwon-si (KR)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 581 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

(21) Appl. No.: **13/737,683**

(22) Filed: **Jan. 9, 2013**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2013/0179168 A1 Jul. 11, 2013

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Jan. 9, 2012 (KR) ..... 10-2012-0002659  
Dec. 11, 2012 (KR) ..... 10-2012-0143590

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**G10L 15/00** (2013.01)  
**G10L 17/22** (2013.01)  
**G10L 21/00** (2013.01)

(Continued)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**  
CPC ..... **G10L 17/22** (2013.01); **G10L 15/08** (2013.01); **G10L 15/26** (2013.01); **G10L 21/00** (2013.01); **H03G 3/02** (2013.01); **H04N 5/4403** (2013.01); **H04N 21/4221** (2013.01); **H04N**

**21/42203** (2013.01); **H04N 21/42222** (2013.01); **H04N 21/4312** (2013.01); **H04N 21/4396** (2013.01); **H04N 2005/4432** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**  
USPC ..... 704/246, 247, 251, 252  
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,774,859 A \* 6/1998 Houser et al. .... 704/275  
5,983,186 A \* 11/1999 Miyazawa et al. .... 704/275

(Continued)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EP 1 457 969 A1 9/2004  
JP 2001100785 A 4/2001

(Continued)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Communication dated Apr. 25, 2013 issued by the European Patent Office in counterpart European Patent Application No. 13150618.0.

(Continued)

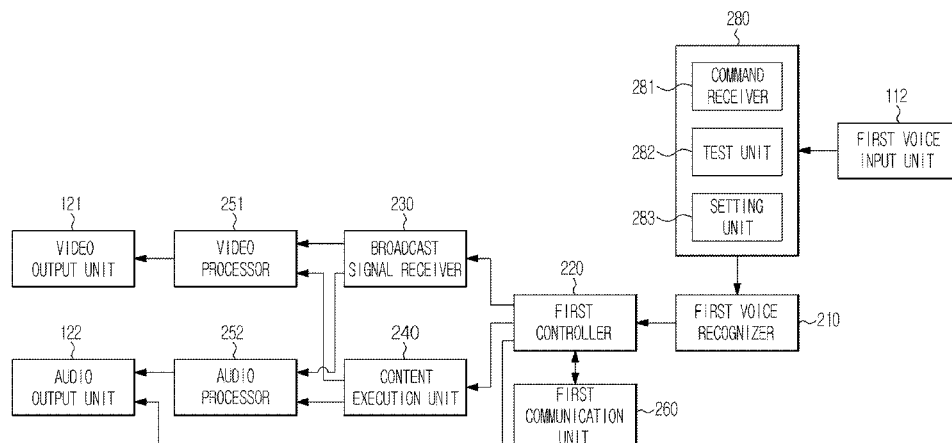
*Primary Examiner* — Leonard Saint Cyr

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Sughrue Mion, PLLC

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Provided are an image display apparatus and a method of controlling the same. The image display apparatus enabling voice recognition includes: a first voice inputter which receives a user-side audio signal; an audio outputter which outputs an audio signal processed by the image display apparatus; a first voice recognizer which recognizes the user-side audio signal received through the first voice inputter; and a controller which decreases a volume of the audio signal output through the audio outputter to a predetermined level if a voice recognition start command is received.

**33 Claims, 19 Drawing Sheets**



(51) **Int. Cl.**

**G10L 15/26** (2006.01)  
**H04N 5/44** (2011.01)  
**H04N 21/422** (2011.01)  
**G10L 15/08** (2006.01)  
**H03G 3/02** (2006.01)  
**H04N 21/431** (2011.01)  
**H04N 21/439** (2011.01)

2010/0333163 A1 12/2010 Daly  
 2011/0313775 A1 12/2011 Laligand et al.  
 2012/0226502 A1 9/2012 Ouchi et al.

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

JP 2001275176 A 10/2001  
 KR 0122953 Y1 5/1994  
 WO 02096111 A1 11/2002

(56)

**References Cited**

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

6,629,077 B1 9/2003 Arling et al.  
 7,266,498 B1 \* 9/2007 Connelly ..... 704/270  
 7,292,986 B1 \* 11/2007 Venolia et al. .... 704/276  
 2002/0013710 A1 \* 1/2002 Shimakawa ..... 704/275  
 2003/0138118 A1 7/2003 Stahl  
 2005/0015197 A1 \* 1/2005 Ohtsuji et al. .... 701/202  
 2008/0089534 A1 4/2008 Park  
 2008/0118086 A1 5/2008 Krig  
 2010/0104107 A1 4/2010 Shen

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Communication dated Apr. 29, 2013 issued by the International Searching Authority in counterpart International Application No. PCT/KR2013/000173 (PCT/ISA/210).

Communication dated Jul. 10, 2015, issued by the Korean Patent Office in counterpart Korean Patent Application No. 10-2012-0143590.

Communication dated Jun. 10, 2015, issued by the European Patent Office in counterpart European Patent Application No. 15158073.5.

\* cited by examiner

FIG. 1

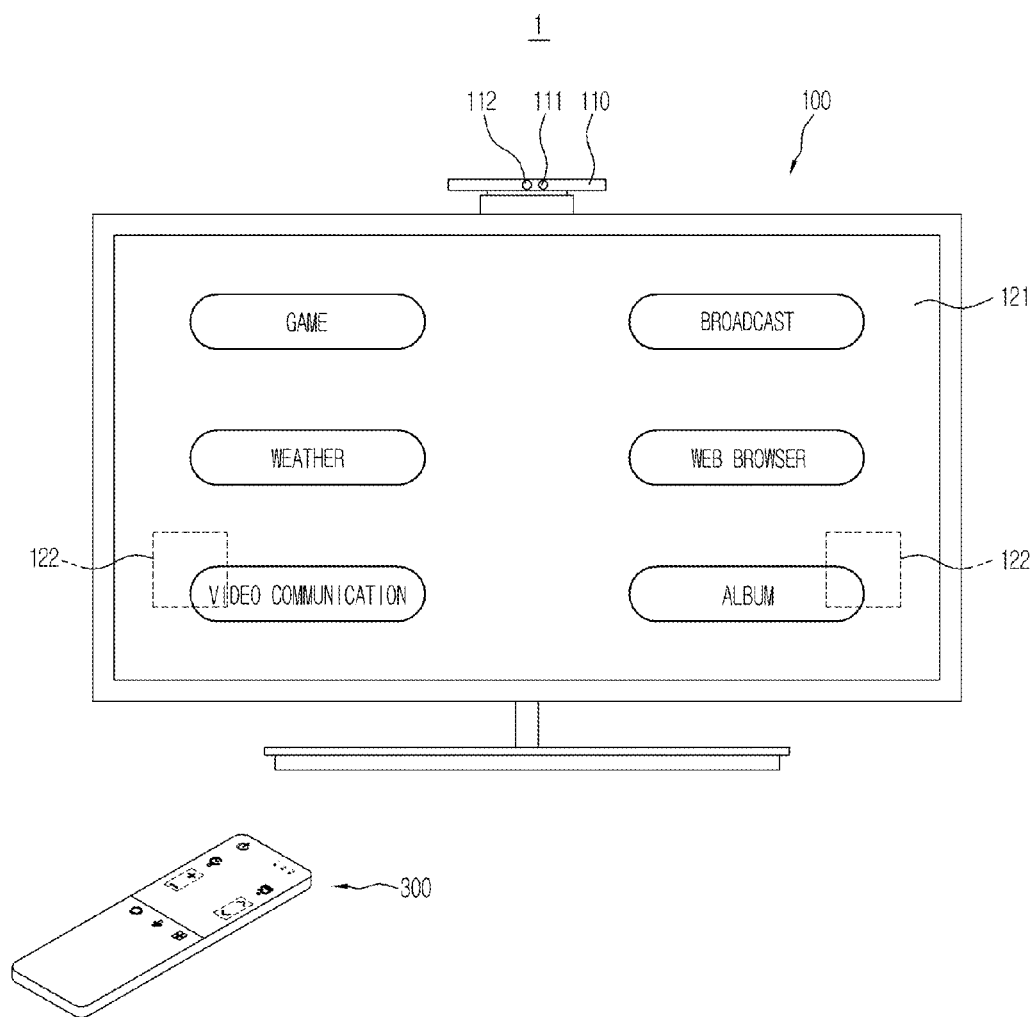


FIG. 2

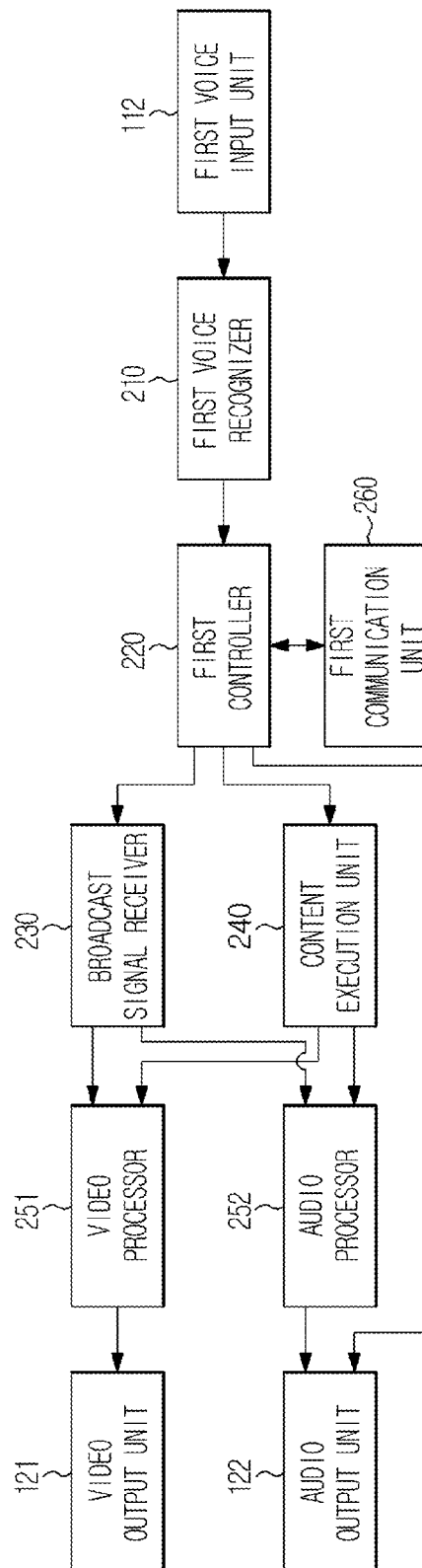


FIG. 3

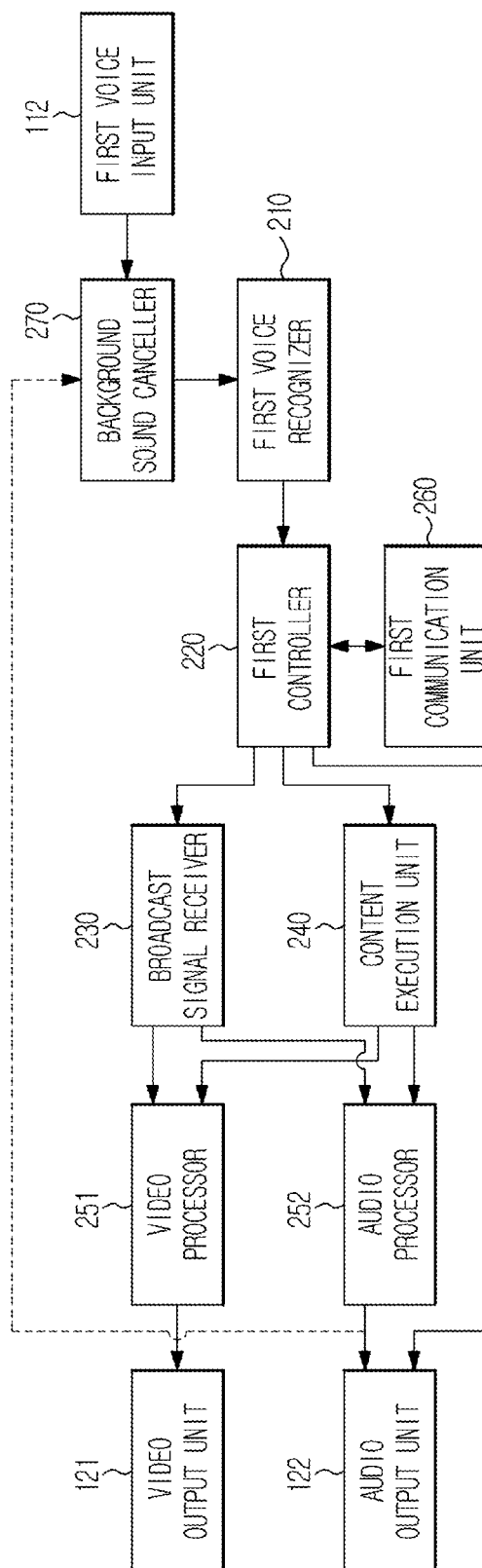


FIG. 4

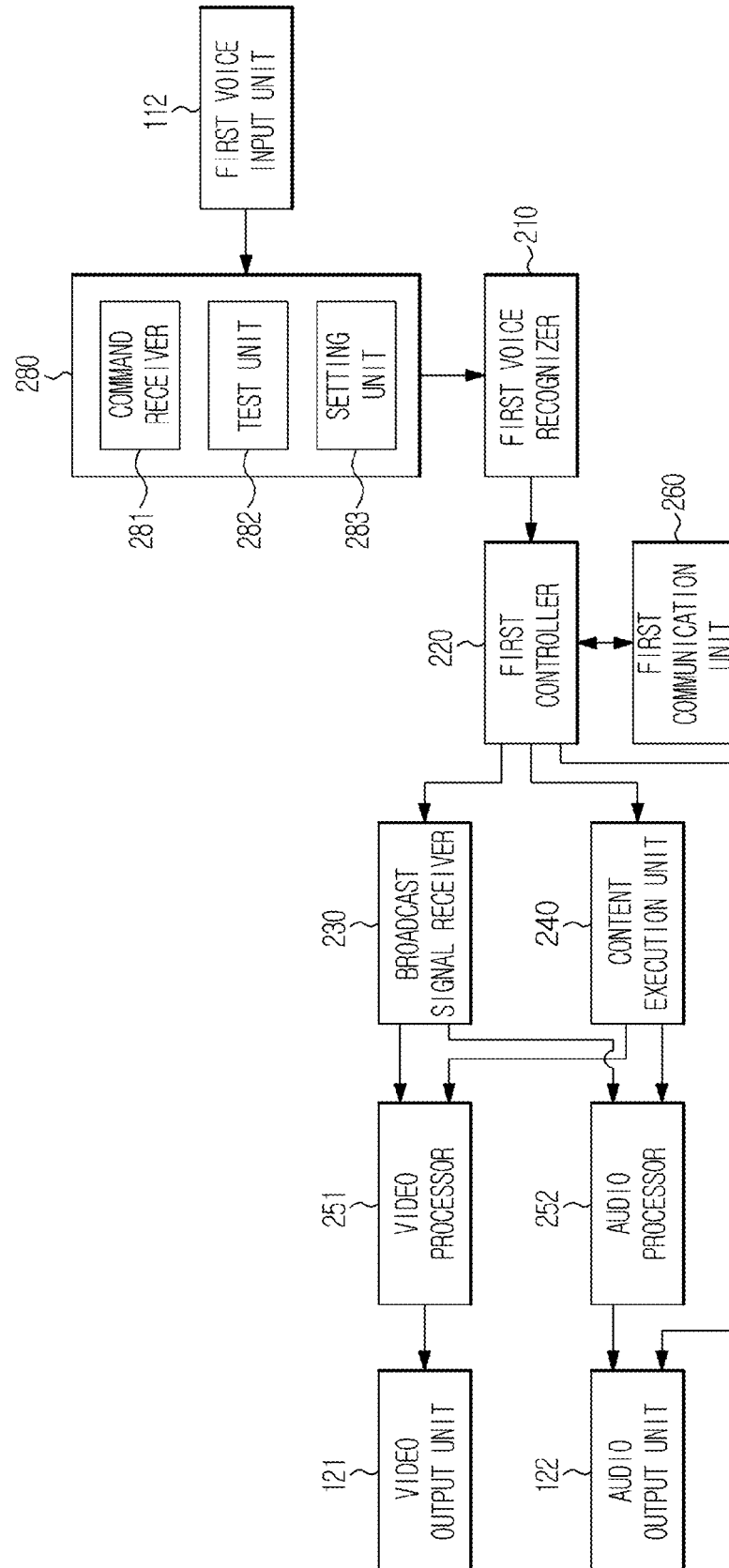


FIG. 5

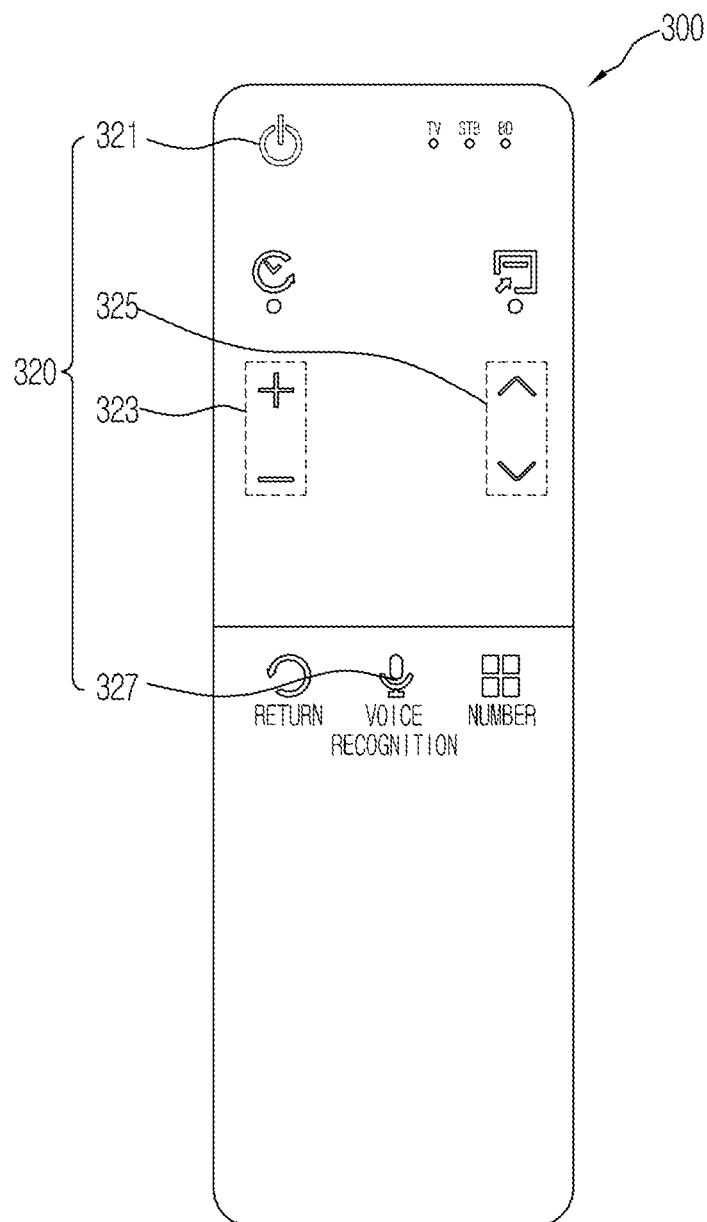


FIG. 6

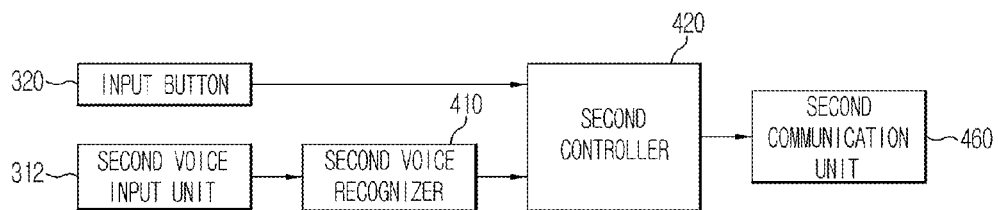


FIG. 7

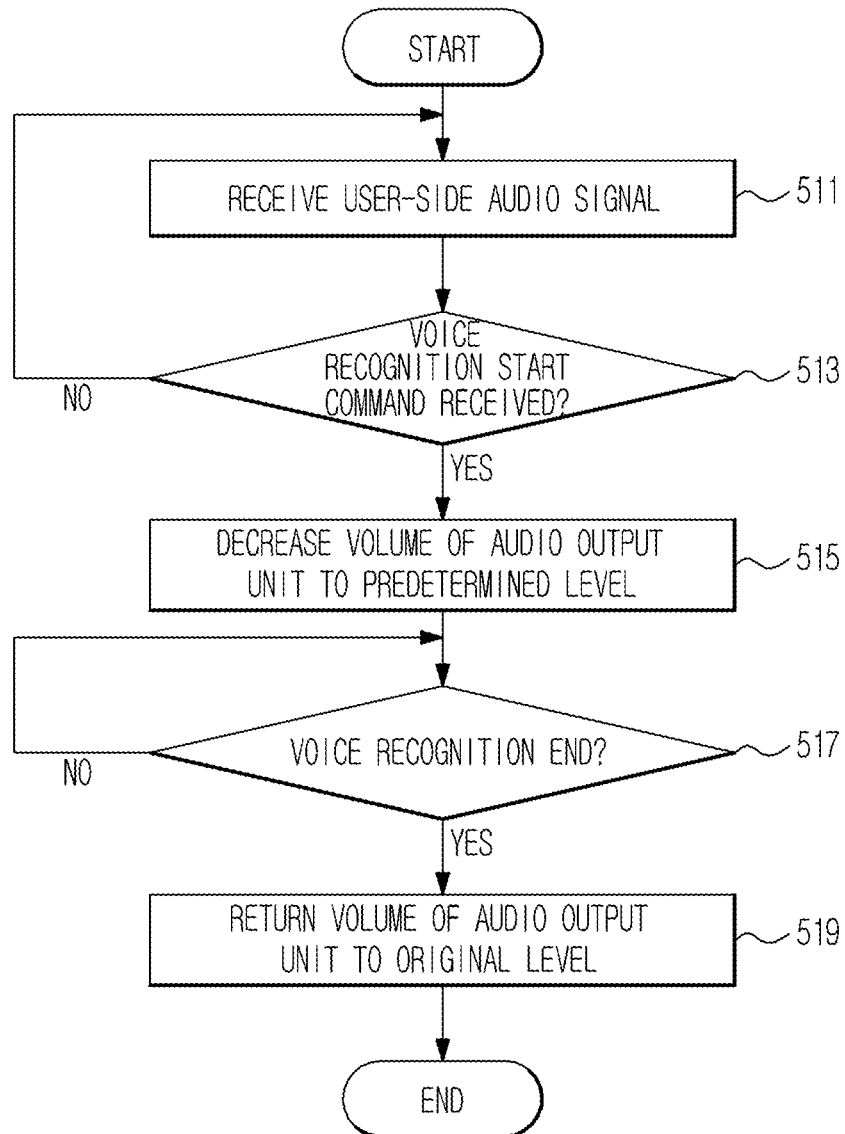


FIG. 8

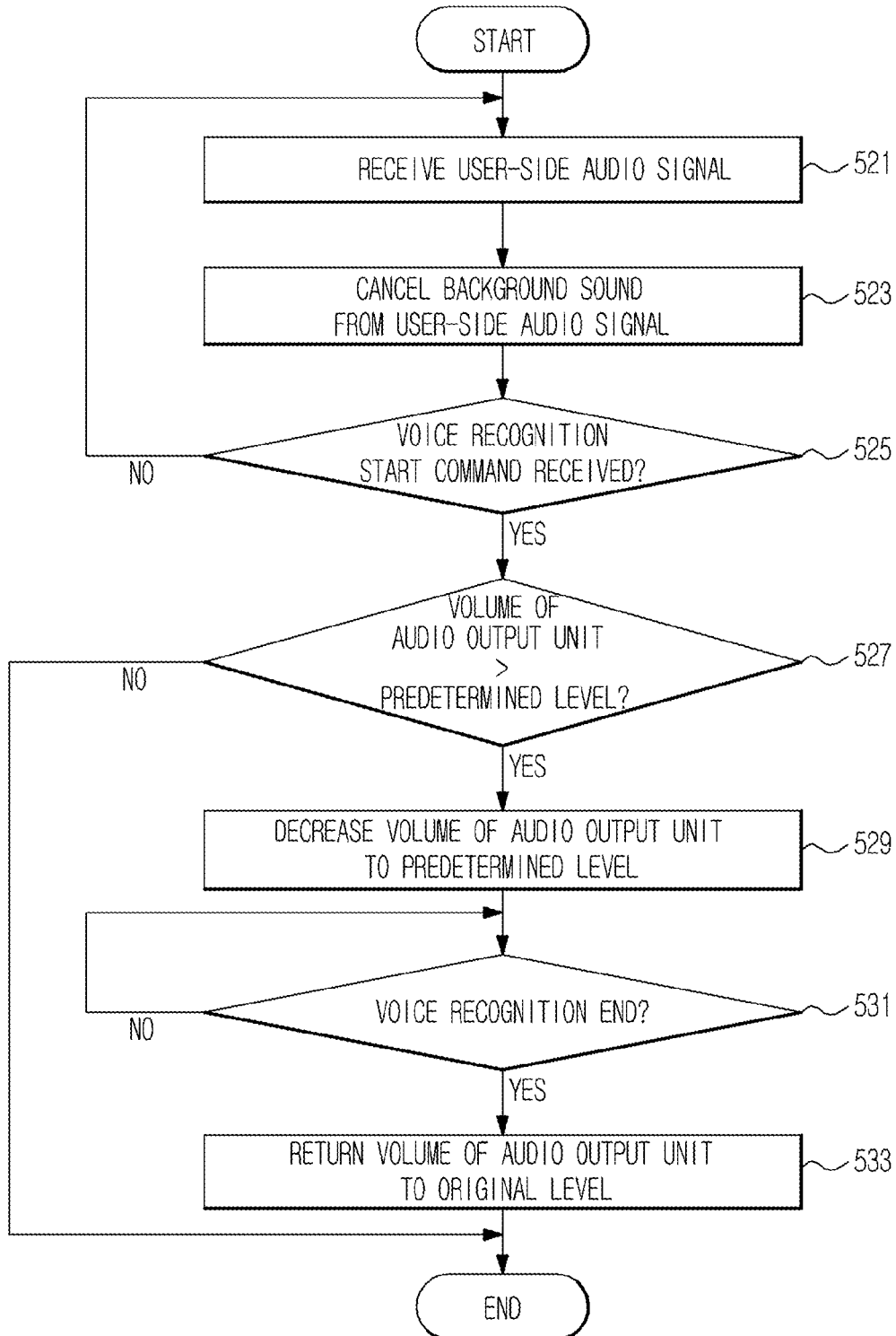


FIG.9

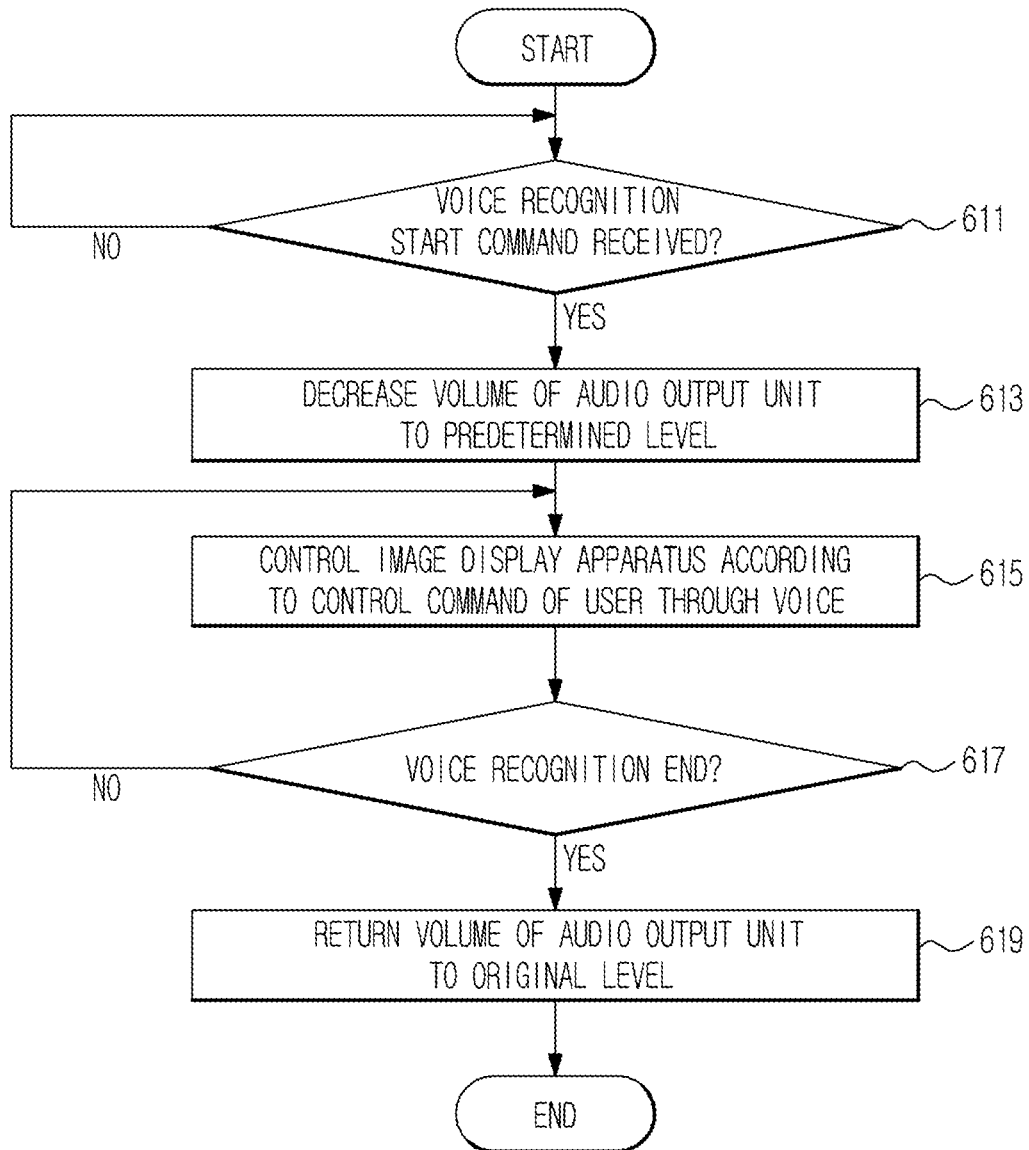


FIG. 10

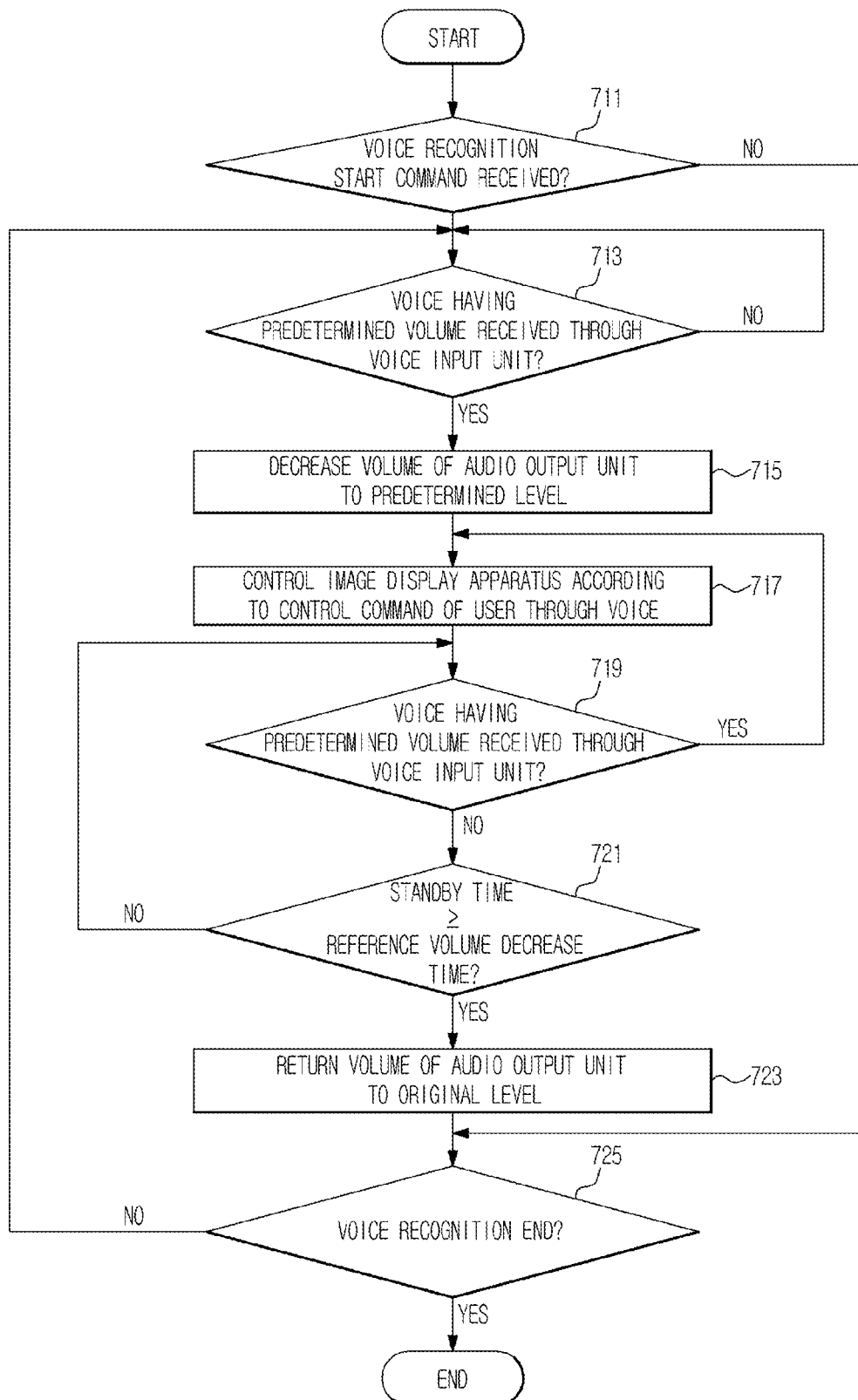


FIG. 11

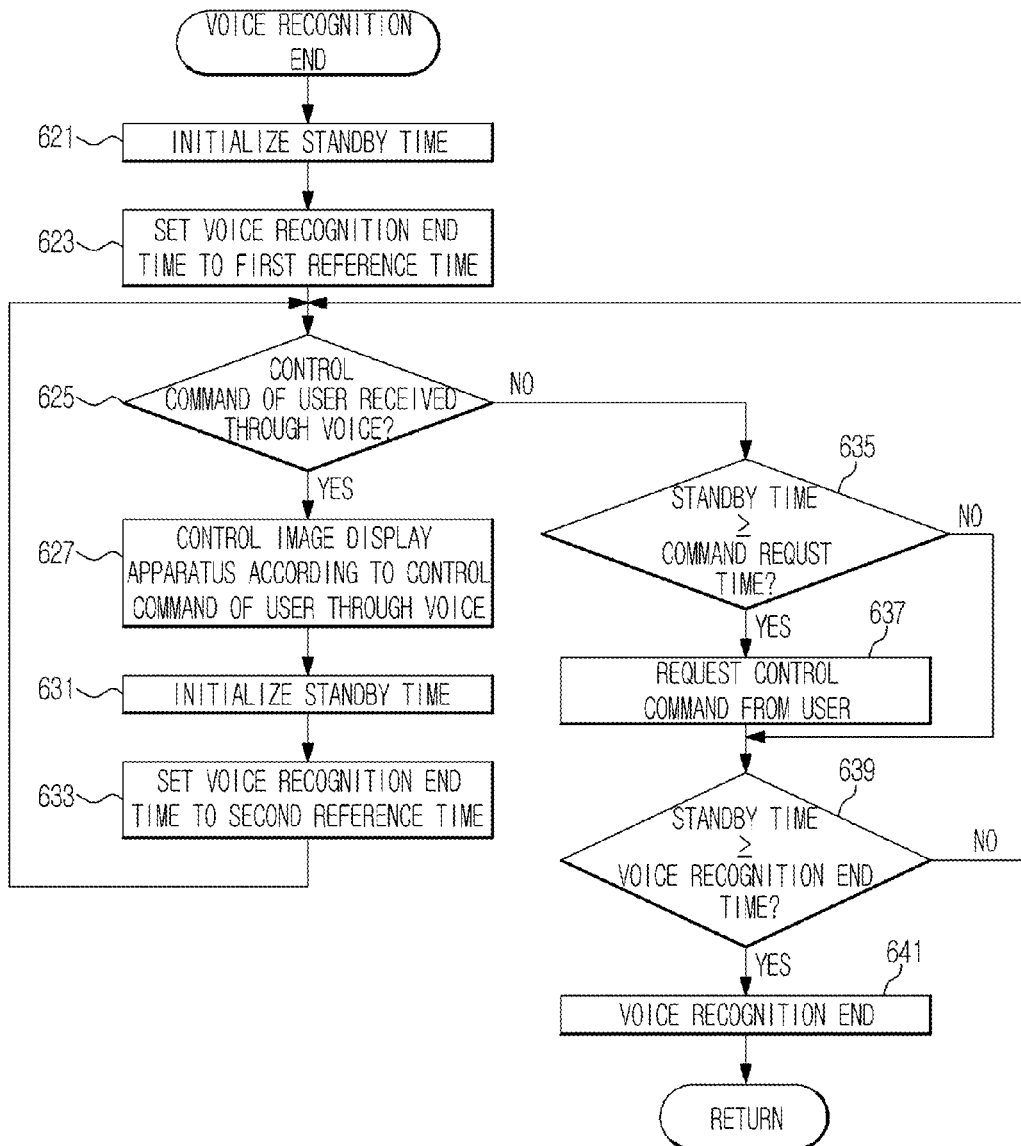


FIG. 12A

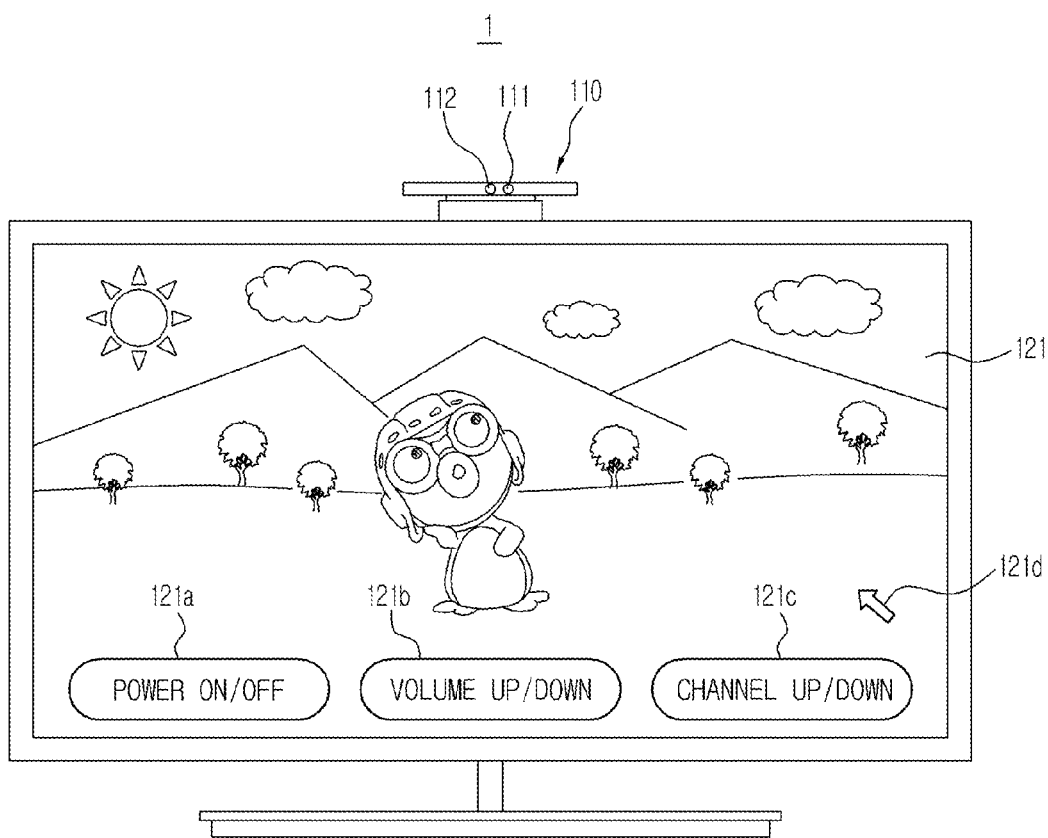


FIG. 12B

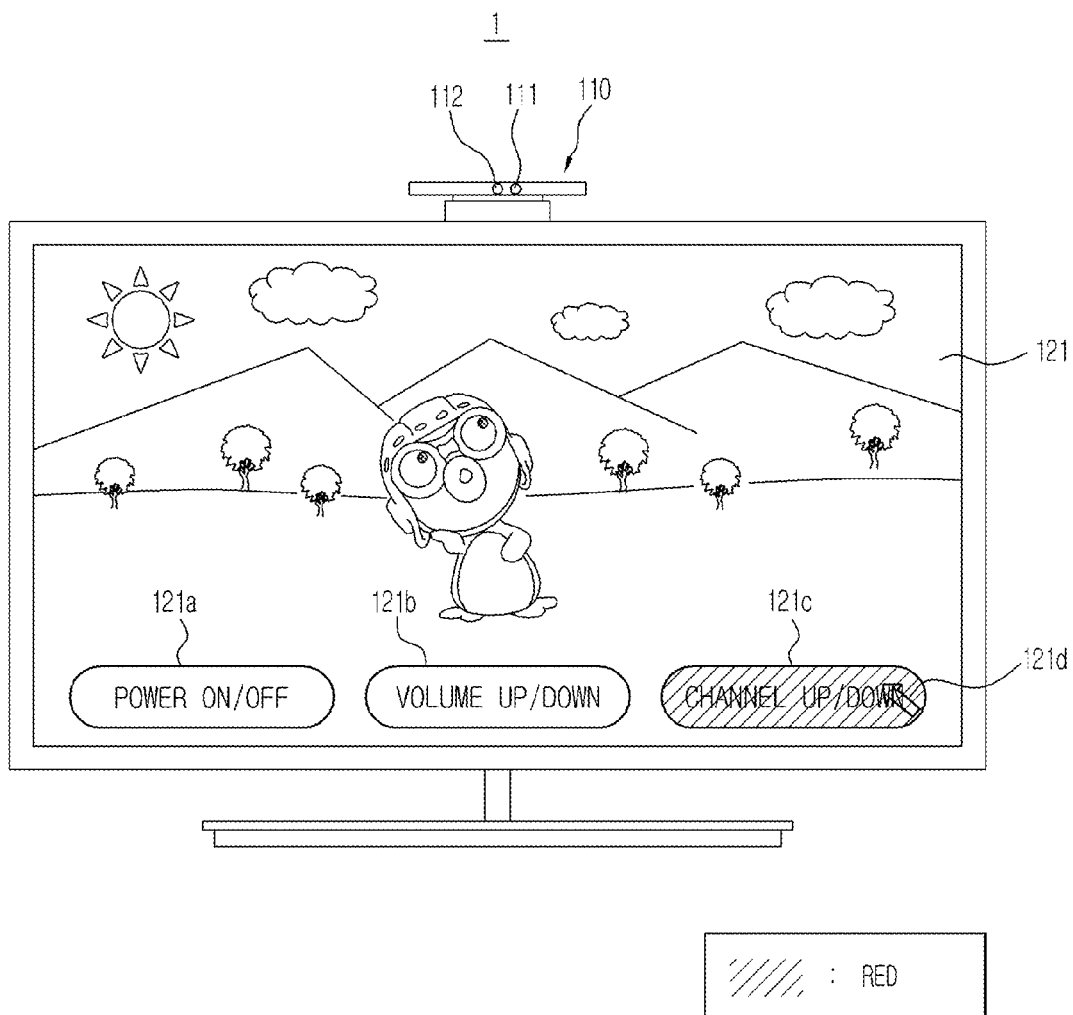


FIG. 12C

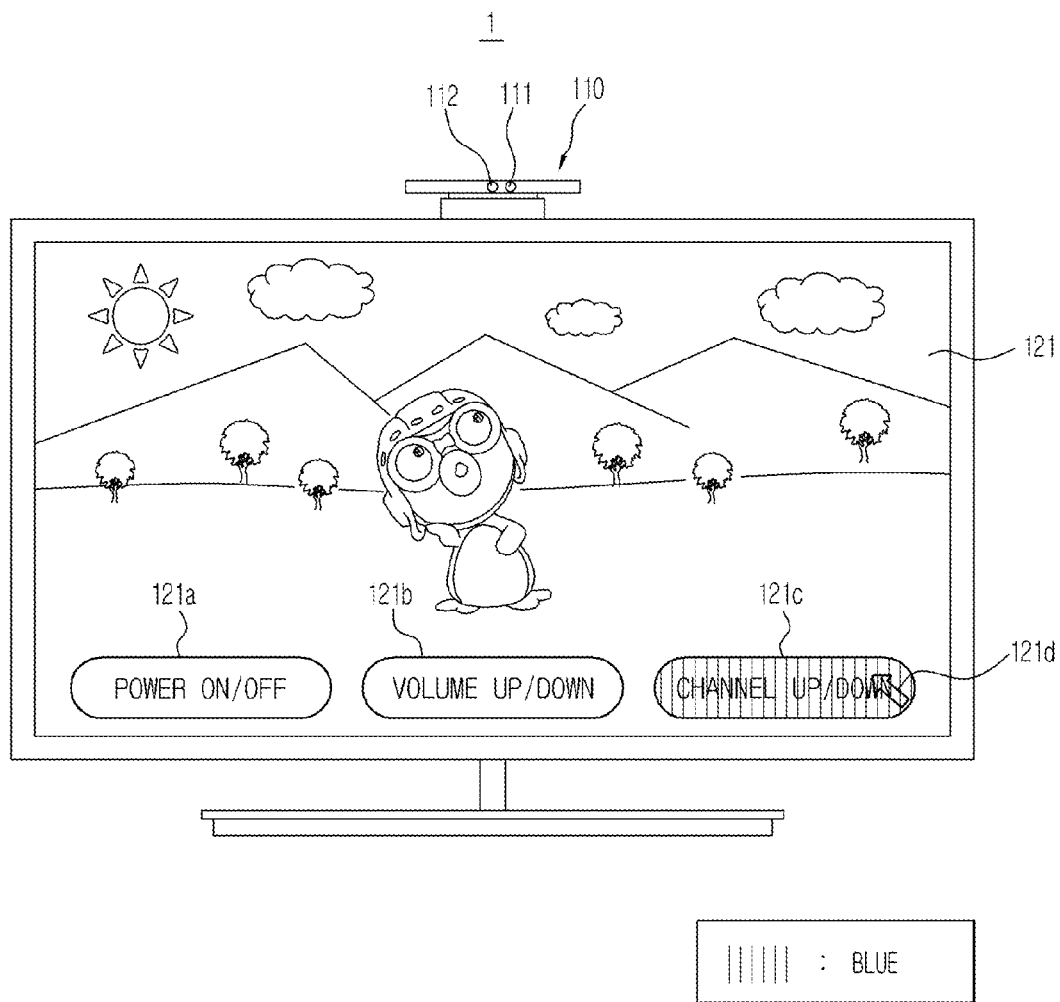


FIG. 13

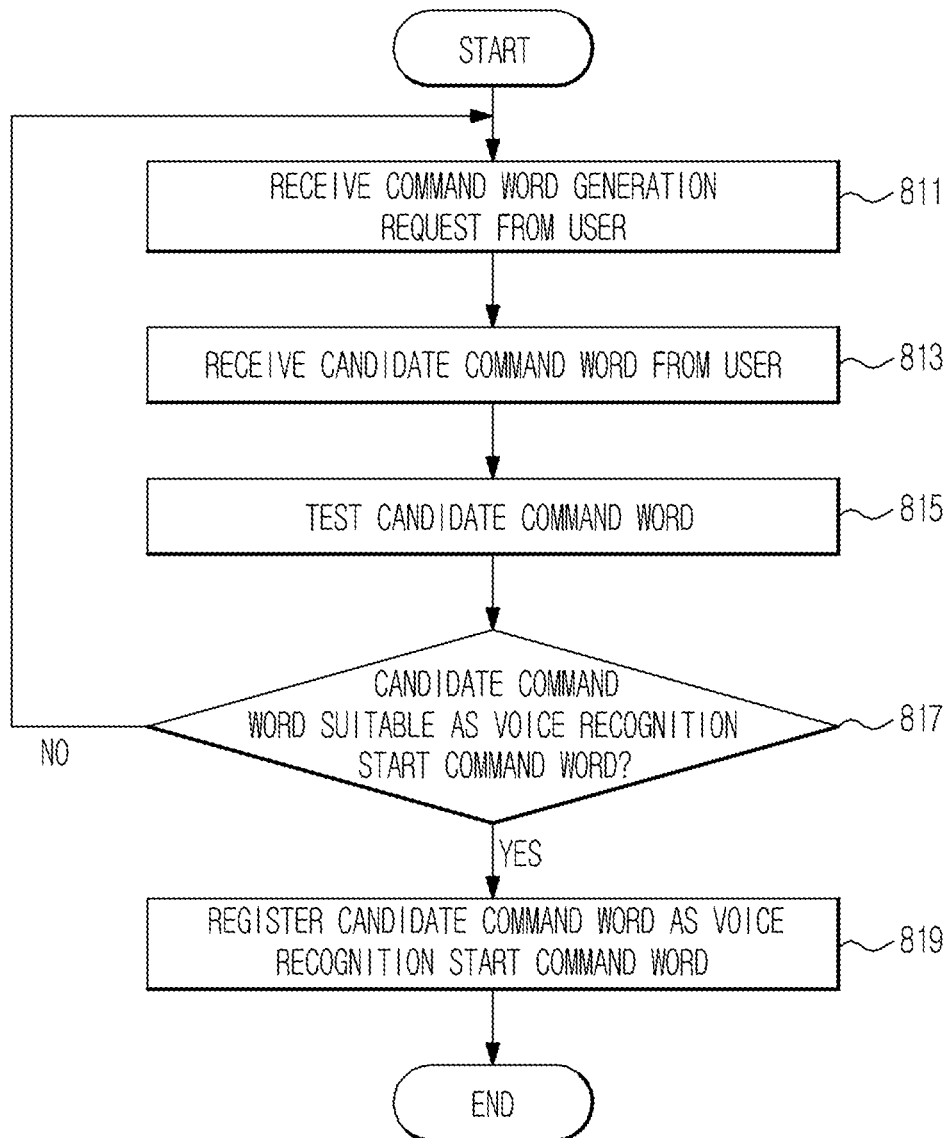


FIG. 14A

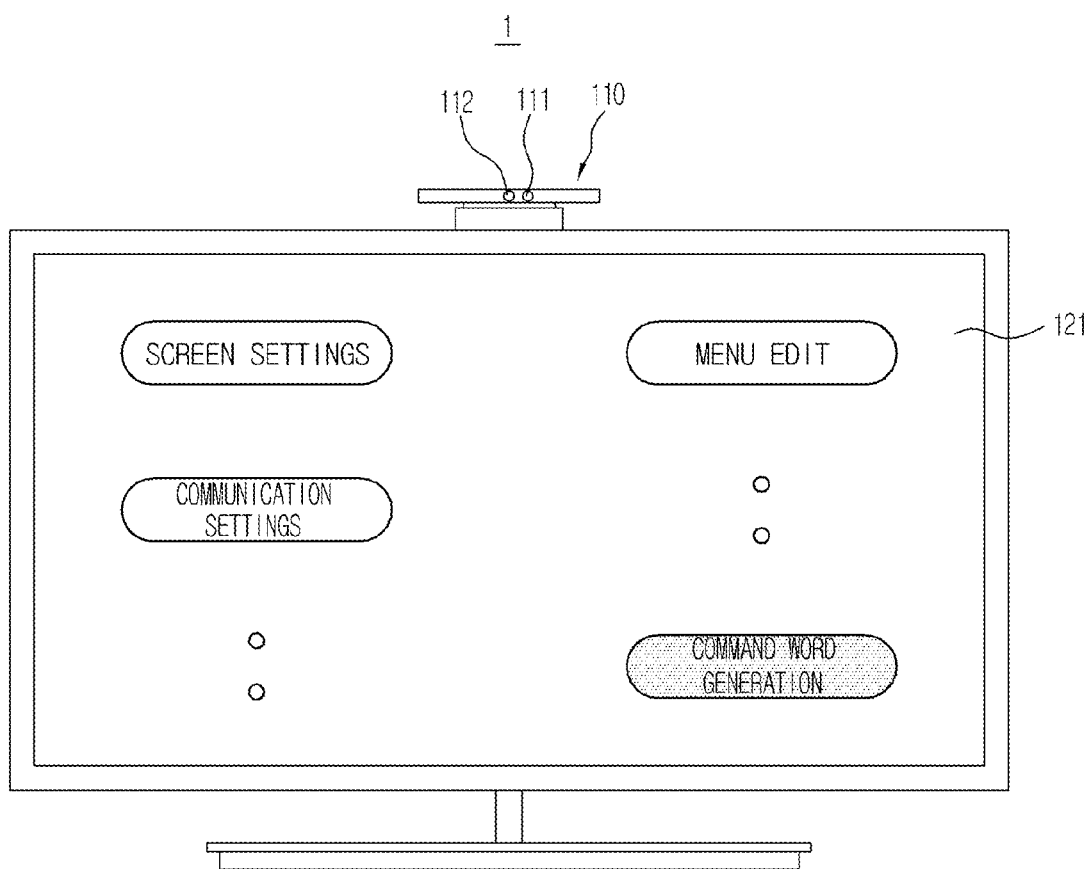


FIG. 14B

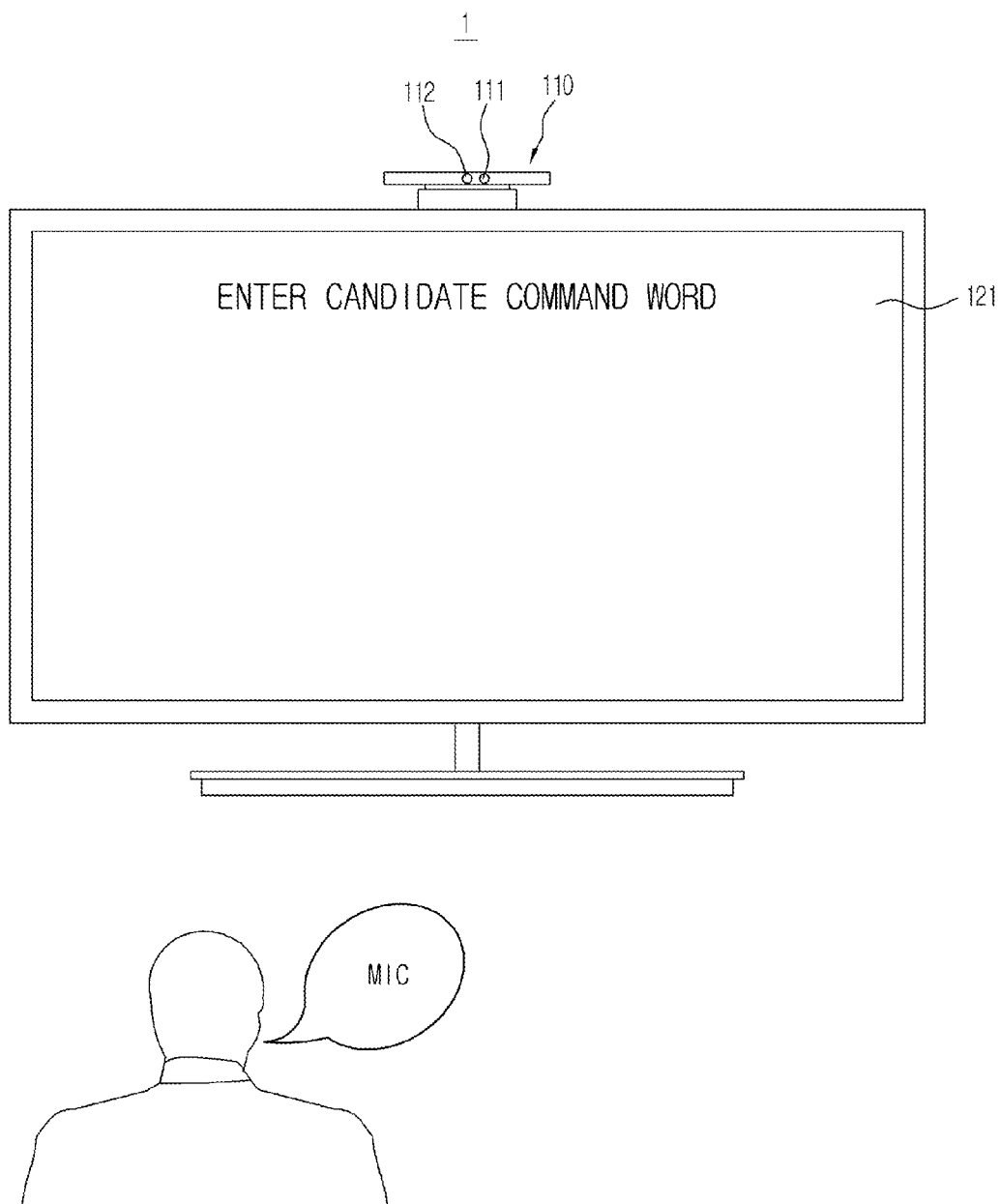


FIG. 14C

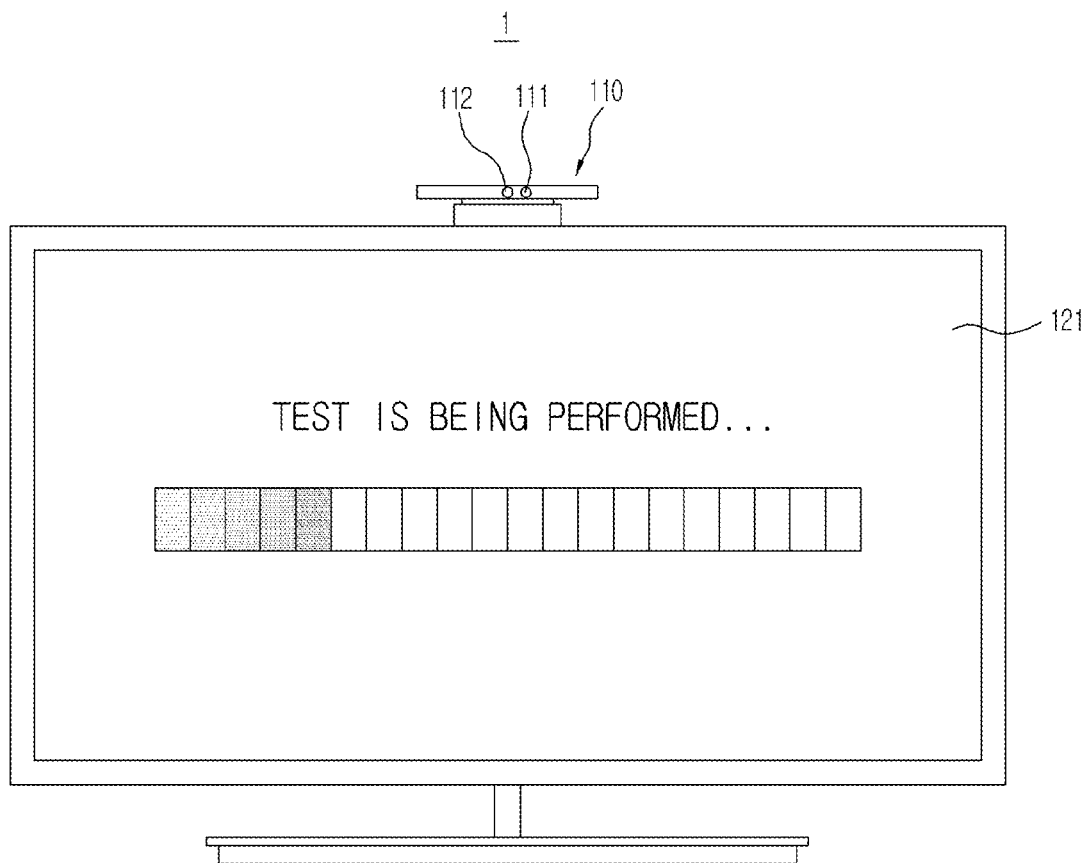
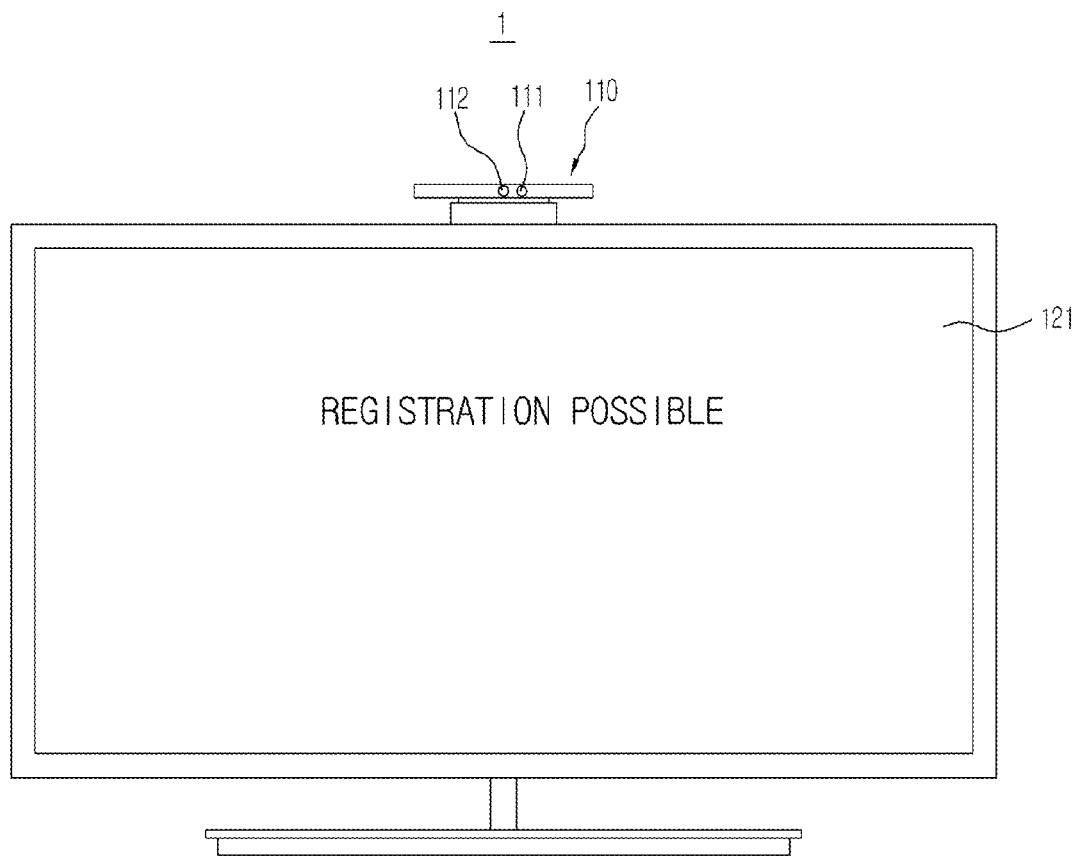


FIG. 14D



# IMAGE DISPLAY APPARATUS AND METHOD OF CONTROLLING THE SAME

## CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority from Korean Patent Application No. 10-2012-0002659, filed on Jan. 9, 2012 in the Korean Intellectual Property Office, and Korean Patent Application No. 10-2012-0143590, filed on Dec. 11, 2012 in the Korean Intellectual Property Office, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

## BACKGROUND

### 1. Field

Apparatuses and methods consistent with exemplary embodiments relate to an image display apparatus that executes a command through voice recognition and a method of controlling the same.

### 2. Description of the Related Art

In general, an image display apparatus, e.g., a television (TV), processes and outputs a video signal in various formats. Recently, as a digital TV having a signal processing and a storage capacity superior to existing analog TVs has been developed and commercially used, various kinds of content services, such as real-time broadcast, content on demand (COD), games and video communication, may be provided to users using an Internet network installed in each home.

In addition, when an image display apparatus receives a command from a user in order to perform various functions including various kinds of services, a voice recognition method of receiving a user voice through a microphone, recognizing the received user voice, and executing a command corresponding to the received user voice has been applied.

However, when the user voice is received through the microphone, background sound is also received and, more particular, an audio signal output from the image display apparatus may be received. If the volume of the background sound or the audio signal output of the image display apparatus exceeds a predetermined level, a user voice recognition rate of the image display apparatus may be decreased.

## SUMMARY

Therefore, aspects of one or more exemplary embodiments provide an image display apparatus able to improve voice recognition performance by decreasing the volume of an audio signal output from the image display apparatus to a predetermined level or less when the image display apparatus recognizes a user voice, and a method of controlling the same.

Additional aspects will be set forth in part in the description which follows and, in part, will be obvious from the description, or may be learned by practice of exemplary embodiments.

According to an aspect of an exemplary embodiment, there is provided an image display apparatus enabling voice recognition, the image display apparatus including: a first voice inputter which receives a user-side audio signal; an audio outputter which outputs an audio signal processed by the image display apparatus; a first voice recognizer which analyzes the user-side audio signal received through the first voice inputter; and a controller which decreases a volume of the output audio signal to a predetermined level if a voice recognition start command is received, the voice recognition start command indicating a start of a voice recognition in the analyzed user-side audio signal.

The voice recognition start command may be received as a voice signal of a user through the first voice inputter.

The controller may determine that the voice recognition start command is received if a voice recognition start command word is received through the first voice inputter.

The controller may determine that the voice recognition start command is received if voice having a predetermined volume or more is received through the first voice inputter.

The image display apparatus may further include a background sound canceller to reduce background sound other than the voice signal of the user from the user-side audio signal.

The background sound canceller may reduce audio output through the audio outputter from the user-side audio signal received through the first voice inputter.

The controller may return the volume of the output audio signal to a volume of the audio signal when the voice recognition begins.

The controller may determine that the voice recognition ends if a control command of the user is not received through the first voice inputter for a predetermined voice recognition end time or more.

The controller may request the user to input a control command if the control command of the user is not received through the first voice inputter for a predetermined command request time or more.

The controller may determine that voice recognition ends if a voice recognition end command word is received through the first voice inputter.

The image display apparatus may further include a command word generator to generate a voice recognition start command word corresponding to the voice recognition start command.

The command word generator may receive a candidate command word through the first voice inputter, test whether the candidate command word is suitable as the voice recognition start command word, and register the candidate command word as the voice recognition start command if the candidate command word is suitable as the voice recognition start command word.

The command word generator may receive a selection command from the user and select and set the voice recognition start command word according to the received selection command if the number of registered voice recognition command words is two or more.

The image display apparatus may further include a remote controller which remotely controls the image display apparatus, and the remote controller may include an input button which receives a control command of a user, a second voice inputter which receives a user-side audio signal, and a second voice recognizer which analyzes the user-side audio signal received through the second voice inputter.

The controller may determine that the voice recognition start command is received if voice having a predetermined volume or more is received through the second voice inputter.

The controller may return the volume of the audio signal output through the audio output unit to the volume of the audio signal when the voice recognition begins, if the voice recognition ends.

The controller may determine that the voice recognition ends if the control command of the user is not received through the second voice inputter for a predetermined voice recognition end time or more.

The controller may request the user to input a control command if the control command of the user is not received through the second audio inputter for a predetermined command request time or more.

The controller may determine that voice recognition ends if a voice recognition end command is received through the input button or the second voice inputter.

According to an aspect of another exemplary embodiment, there is provided an image display apparatus enabling voice recognition, the image display apparatus including: a voice inputter which receives a control command word from a user; and a display which displays at least one icon corresponding to a plurality of control command words and which changes an icon, among the at least one icon, corresponding to the received control command word if the control command word is received from the user through the voice inputter.

According to an aspect of another exemplary embodiment, there is provided a method of controlling an audio outputting apparatus including an audio outputter, the method including: receiving a user-side audio signal from a user; determining whether the received user-side audio signal corresponds to a voice recognition start command word; and decreasing a volume of an audio signal output through the audio outputter to a predetermined level if the received user-side audio signal corresponds to the voice recognition start command word.

The method may further include reducing a background sound signal other than a voice signal of the user from the user-side audio signal if the user-side audio signal is received through the voice inputter.

The background sound signal may be an audio signal output through the audio outputter.

The method may further include returning the volume of the output audio signal to a volume of the audio signal when voice recognition begins, if the voice recognition ends.

Ending of the voice recognition may include determining that the voice recognition ends if a control command of the user is not received through the voice inputter for a predetermined voice recognition end time or more.

Ending of voice recognition may include determining that the voice recognition ends if a voice recognition end command word is received through the voice inputter.

According to an aspect of another exemplary embodiment, there is provided a method of controlling a processing apparatus enabling voice recognition, the method including: receiving a candidate command word from a user through a voice inputter; testing whether the received candidate command word is suitable as a control command word to be subjected to the voice recognition; and registering the candidate command word as the control command if the candidate command word is suitable as the control command word according to the testing.

According to an aspect of another exemplary embodiment, there is provided a method of controlling a processing apparatus, the method including: decreasing a volume of an audio signal output from the processing apparatus to a predetermined volume if a voice recognition start command is received from the user through a voice inputter of the processing apparatus or a remote controller; and returning the volume of the output audio signal to an original level if a voice recognition end command is received from the user.

The receiving the voice recognition start command may include receiving the voice recognition start command of the user through the voice inputter.

The receiving the voice recognition start command may include receiving voice having a predetermined volume or more through the voice inputter.

The receiving the voice recognition end command may include receiving a voice recognition end command word of the user through the voice inputter.

The voice recognition end command may be received when the control command is not received through the voice inputter for a predetermined voice recognition end time or more.

According to an aspect of another exemplary embodiment, there is provided a processing apparatus, including: an audio output controller which controls an output of an audio signal; and a controller which, in response to determining that a voice recognition starts, performs at least one of decreasing a volume of the output audio signal to a predetermined level and reducing a background sound other than a voice signal of a user from a user-side audio signal received from the user.

According to aspects of one or more exemplary embodiments, it is possible to improve user voice recognition performance of an image display apparatus and prevent malfunction of the image display apparatus due to voice recognition errors.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

These and/or other aspects will become apparent and more readily appreciated from the following description of exemplary embodiments, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings of which:

FIG. 1 is a diagram showing the appearance of an image display apparatus according to an exemplary embodiment;

FIG. 2 is a block diagram showing a control flow of an image display apparatus main body according to an exemplary embodiment;

FIG. 3 is a block diagram showing a control flow of an image display apparatus according to an exemplary embodiment, which further includes a background sound canceller;

FIG. 4 is a block diagram showing a control flow of an image display apparatus according to an exemplary embodiment, which further includes a command word generator;

FIG. 5 is a diagram showing the appearance of a remote controller included in an image display apparatus according to an exemplary embodiment;

FIG. 6 is a block diagram showing a control flow of a remote controller included in an image display apparatus according to an exemplary embodiment;

FIG. 7 is a flowchart illustrating a control method of an image display apparatus according to an exemplary embodiment;

FIG. 8 is a flowchart illustrating the exemplary embodiment of FIG. 7 in greater detail;

FIG. 9 is a flowchart illustrating a control method of an image display apparatus according to another exemplary embodiment;

FIG. 10 is a flowchart illustrating a control method of an image display apparatus according to another exemplary embodiment;

FIG. 11 is a flowchart illustrating a method of finishing voice recognition if a control command is not received from a user through voice for a predetermined time in FIG. 9, according to an exemplary embodiment;

FIGS. 12A-12C are diagrams showing a screen displayed on a video output unit if an image display apparatus according to an exemplary embodiment is in a voice recognition mode;

FIG. 13 is a flowchart illustrating a method of generating a command word by a user in an image display apparatus according to an exemplary embodiment; and

FIGS. 14A-14D are diagrams showing a screen displayed on a video output unit if an image display apparatus according to an exemplary embodiment generates a command word by a user.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EXEMPLARY EMBODIMENTS

Exemplary embodiment described in the present specification and the configurations shown in the drawings are merely exemplary and various modifications may be made thereto.

Reference will now be made in detail to exemplary embodiments, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

FIG. 1 is a diagram showing the appearance of an image display apparatus 1 according to an exemplary embodiment.

Referring to FIG. 1, the image display apparatus 1 includes an image display apparatus main body 100 to output at least one of video and audio according to a control command of a user, and a remote controller 300 to remotely control the image display apparatus main body 100.

The image display apparatus main body 100 may be implemented by a digital TV and includes a video output unit 121 (e.g., video outputter) to output a video signal of a broadcast program and a video signal of a variety of content, an audio output unit 122 (e.g., audio outputter) to output an audio signal of a broadcast program and an audio signal of a variety of content, and a user input unit 110 (e.g., user inputter) to acquire a control command through user voice or operation.

The image display apparatus 1 according to the present exemplary embodiment enables video communication through a wired and/or wireless network. If the image display apparatus 1 provides a video communication service, it is possible to output a video signal of the other party of the video communication service through the video output unit 121 and to output an audio signal of the other party through the audio output unit 122. In this case, the video signal and the audio signal of the user may be acquired through the user input unit 110 and transmitted to the other party.

The audio output unit 122 may be implemented by a speaker, etc., and output an audio signal processed by the image display apparatus 1. More specifically, the audio output unit 122 outputs an audio signal included in a broadcast program signal or an audio signal included in content executed by the image display apparatus 1. In addition, as described above, if the image display apparatus 1 performs a video communication operation, an audio signal of the other party may be output. Although the image display apparatus 1 of the present exemplary embodiment includes the audio output unit 122 at the rear side thereof, it is understood that one or more other exemplary embodiments are not limited thereto and the audio output unit 122 may be mounted at any place where audio is provided to a user.

The video output unit 121 outputs a video signal processed in the image display apparatus 1. More specifically, the video output unit 121 outputs a video signal included in a broadcast program signal or a video signal included in content in the image display apparatus 1. In addition, if the image display apparatus 1 performs a video communication operation, a video signal of the other party of the video communication may be output.

The user input unit 110 includes an image input unit 111 (e.g., image inputter) to receive an image of a user and a first voice input unit 112 (e.g., first voice inputter) to receive user voice.

The image input unit 111 includes a lens to receive an image of a user, an imaging device to capture the image of the user through the lens, such as a charge coupled device (CCD) sensor or a complementary metal-oxide semiconductor (CMOS) sensor, and an image signal processor (ISP) to process the image captured by the imaging device.

The first voice input unit 112 may be implemented by a microphone, etc., and receives a user voice. However, the first voice input unit 112 may receive background sound and, more particularly, an audio signal output from the audio output unit 122 of the image display apparatus 1, in addition to the user voice. Accordingly, in the following disclosure, a signal received through the first voice input unit 112, i.e., an audio of a surrounding environment surrounding the image display apparatus 1 or another device which captures the signal (e.g., a remote controller), is referred to as a "user-side audio signal." The user-side audio signal may include not only a user voice signal, but also a background sound signal.

As shown in FIG. 1, although the image display apparatus 1 includes a Multimedia over Internet Protocol (MoIP) device in which a video input unit 111 and a voice input unit 112 are integrally included, it is understood that one or more other exemplary embodiments are not limited thereto and the image display apparatus 1 may include the first voice input unit 112 and not the image input unit 111.

Instead of pressing an input button included in the remote controller 300 or the image display apparatus main body 100, a user may input a control command as a voice signal to the image display apparatus 1 according to an exemplary embodiment through the first voice input unit 112, thereby controlling an operation of the image display apparatus 1. For example, as shown in FIG. 1, if various content menus are displayed on the video output unit 121, the user may select a menu by inputting a command word corresponding to a desired menu to the first voice input unit 112 as a voice signal.

The user input unit 110 may be implemented separately from the image display apparatus main body 100 as shown in FIG. 1 or integrally with the image display apparatus main body 100.

FIG. 2 is a block diagram showing a control flow of an image display apparatus main body 100 according to an exemplary embodiment.

Referring to FIG. 2, the image display apparatus main body 100 according to the present exemplary embodiment includes a broadcast signal receiver 230 to receive a broadcast signal, a content execution unit 240 (e.g., content executor) to execute content, a video processor 251 to process a video signal in the received broadcast signal or a video signal included in the content, an audio processor 252 to process an audio signal included in the received broadcast signal or an audio signal included in the content, a video output unit 121 (e.g., video outputter) to output the video signal processed by the video processor 251, an audio output unit 122 (e.g., audio outputter) to output the audio signal processed by the audio processor 252, a first voice input unit 112 to receive a voice signal from a user, a first voice recognizer 210 to recognize a control command based on the voice signal received from the user, a first communication unit 260 (e.g., first communicator) to receive a control signal from the remote controller 300, and a first controller 220 to control an overall operation of the image display apparatus main body 100.

The broadcast signal receiver 230 receives a broadcast signal including a video signal and an audio signal. The broadcast signal receiver 230 includes an antenna and a tuner, outputs the video signal through the video output unit 121, and outputs the audio signal through the audio output unit 122.

The content execution unit 240 executes multimedia content. The multimedia content executed by the content execution unit 240 may be a game, a moving image file, a music file, etc., stored in the image display apparatus 1 or a variety of multimedia content provided over the Internet if the image display apparatus 1 is connected to the Internet by wire or

wirelessly. In addition, if the image display apparatus is connected to another external device such as a mobile communication apparatus or a computer, the multimedia content may be provided by the connected external apparatus and the kind of the multimedia content executed by the content execution unit **240** is not limited.

The audio processor **252** processes the audio signal received from the broadcast signal receiver **230** and the content execution unit **240** and outputs the processed audio signal through the audio output unit **122**. The audio processor **252** may include a decoder to decode a signal compressed in a predetermined format, such as a broadcast audio signal, and a digital/analog converter to convert the digital signal into an analog signal, and transmits the analog signal to the audio output unit **122**.

The video processor **251** processes the video signal received from the broadcast signal receiver **230** and the content execution unit **240** and outputs the processed video signal through the video output unit **121**. The video processor **251** may include a decoder to decode a signal compressed in a predetermined format, such as a broadcast video signal, and a digital/analog converter to convert the digital signal into an analog signal, and transmits the analog signal to the video output unit **121**.

The first voice input unit **112** receives a voice signal related to a control command from the user. The first voice input unit **112** may be implemented by a microphone or may be implemented by an MoIP device in which a microphone and a camera are integrally included, e.g., as shown in FIG. **1**. In addition, the first voice input unit **112** may amplify the received user-side audio signal, convert the amplified user-side audio signal from an analog signal into the digital signal, and transmit the digital signal to the first voice recognizer **210**.

The first voice input unit **112** may include a voice encoder. If the first voice input unit **112** is connected to the image display apparatus main body **100** through a data interface, the voice encoder may compress the user-side audio signal into a format suitable for a bandwidth of the data interface or compress the user-side audio signal into a format capable of being transmitted to the other party of a video communication if the video communication is performed. In this case, the image display apparatus main body **100** may include a voice decoder to decode the compressed user-side audio signal before voice recognition.

As described above, when the first voice input unit **112** receives user voice, background sound may also be received. Thus, the first voice input unit **112** receives the user-side audio signal including a user voice signal. When the user inputs a control command through the first audio input unit **112**, since the image display apparatus **1** is operating, the user-side audio signal may include the user voice signal and the audio signal output through the audio output unit **122**.

The first voice recognizer **210** analyzes the user voice signal received through the first voice input unit **112** and recognizes the control command input by the user. The voice recognition method may include at least one of a pattern matching method of comparing a received voice signal with a previously stored standard pattern and detecting a voice pattern most similar to the received voice signal, an identification function method of setting a function for distinguishing between one word and another word in advance, applying the set function to a user voice signal, and determining the user voice signal, etc. In addition, voice recognition may be performed in word units or phoneme units. As the voice recognition method of the voice recognizer **210**, any related art

method may be employed and exemplary embodiments are not limited to the above-described methods.

The first communication unit **260** receives a control signal from the remote controller **300** and provides the control signal to the first controller **220**. The first communication unit **260** may employ not only a wireless communication scheme such as a Wi-Fi communication scheme, a Bluetooth communication scheme, a ZigBee communication scheme, etc., but also an infrared communication scheme having a relatively simple configuration.

The first controller **220** receives the recognition result from the first voice recognizer **210** and performs a control according to the recognition result. For example, if the control command according to the recognition result is broadcast channel change, a control signal is sent to the broadcast signal receiver **230** to change the channel according to the control command and, if the control command according to the recognition result is content selection, a control signal is sent to the content execution unit **240** to execute the content according to the control command.

The first controller **220** decreases the volume of the audio signal output from the audio output unit **122** to a predetermined level if the control command transmitted by the first voice recognizer **210** is a voice recognition start command. If a predetermined voice recognition start command word is received through the first voice input unit **112** or if voice having a predetermined reference volume or more is received, the first voice recognizer **210** recognizes the received command or voice as the voice recognition start command and transmits the voice recognition start command to the first controller **220**. The first controller **220** may receive the voice recognition start command, switch the image display apparatus **1** to a voice recognition mode, and decrease the volume of the audio output unit **122** to a predetermined level.

In reception of the voice recognition start command through the voice recognition start command word, the voice recognition start command word may be set to a simple word capable of easily being recognized such as "Hi TV," "TV," etc. As described above, the user may input a voice recognition start command through an input button included in the remote controller **300** or the image display apparatus main body **100**.

As described above, the user-side audio signal may include a user voice signal and an audio signal output through the audio output unit **122**. If the user-side audio signal includes such background sound, the voice recognition rate of the first voice recognizer **210** may be deteriorated. If the first controller **220** decreases the volume of the audio signal output through the audio output signal **122** to a predetermined level while voice recognition is performed, only the user voice signal is extracted even when the user-side audio signal includes background sound, thereby easily recognizing the control command.

The predetermined volume level may indicate a volume level capable of ensuring a predetermined voice recognition rate or more even when background sound is included. For example, if a volume capable of ensuring a voice recognition rate of 80% or more is 5, the volume of the audio signal output through the audio output unit **122** may be set to be decreased to 5 when the voice recognition start command is received. The predetermined volume may be previously set in a manufacturing process through experimentation or statistical analysis or may be previously set by a user.

The predetermined volume level may not be 0. For example, a user may input a control command to select content through voice recognition in order to view an album stored in the image display apparatus **1** while listening to music through the image display apparatus **1**. At this time, if

the volume of the audio signal output from the audio output unit **122** is set to 0 to perform a mute function, operation continuity is not achieved and user intention to simultaneously perform several operations is not achieved. Accordingly, the predetermined volume may be appropriately selected in consideration of operation continuity and voice recognition rate.

In addition, the first controller **220** may maintain the current volume level if the current volume level is determined to be equal to or less than the predetermined volume level.

If voice recognition ends, the first controller **220** returns the volume level of the audio signal output from the audio output unit **122** to the original level. If a voice recognition end command is received through the first voice input unit **112**, if a control command to be subjected to voice recognition is not received for a predetermined reference time, or if a voice recognition end command is received through an input button included in the remote controller **300** or the image display apparatus main body **100**, it may be determined that voice recognition ends.

FIG. 3 is a block diagram showing a control flow of an image display apparatus **1** according to an exemplary embodiment, which further includes a background sound canceller **270**.

In the exemplary embodiment of FIG. 3, descriptions of the same portions as FIG. 2 will be omitted and the background sound canceller **270** will be focused upon for convenience of description.

As described above, if the user-side audio signal includes background sound, the voice recognition rate of the first voice recognizer **210** is deteriorated and a voice signal having good quality may not be transmitted to the other party if video communication is performed. Accordingly, the image display apparatus **1** according to the present exemplary embodiment may further include the background sound canceller **270** to cancel or reduce background sound from the user-side audio signal.

The background sound canceller **270** may be implemented by an acoustic echo canceller. The acoustic echo canceller receives a reference signal and a user-side audio signal including a user voice signal and background sound and cancels the background sound from the received user-side audio signal based on the reference signal. In the image display apparatus **1** according to the present exemplary embodiment, the audio signal output through the audio output unit **122** is set to the reference signal and the audio signal output through the audio output unit **122** is cancelled from the user-side audio signal input to the background sound canceller **270**. In addition, if the user views a broadcast program, the audio signal received by the broadcast signal receiver **230** may be set as a reference signal and, if content is executed, the audio signal generated by the content execution unit **240** may be set as a reference signal.

The user-side audio signal, from which background sound is cancelled by the background sound canceller **270**, is transmitted to the first audio recognizer **210**. If the user inputs a voice recognition start command as a voice signal, the user-side audio signal is transmitted to the first audio recognizer **210** in a state in which the volume level of the audio output unit **122** is not decreased. Accordingly, if the background sound canceller cancels background sound, the voice recognizer may easily recognize the voice recognition start command.

However, even when the background sound canceller **270** cancels background sound, if the volume of the audio signal output through the audio output unit **122** is equal to or greater than a predetermined level, it is difficult to divide the user

voice signal and the background sound signal and cancel only the background sound signal. Even when the background sound canceller **270** cancels the background sound signal to some extent, residual sound of background sound may be present and thus the voice recognition rate of the first voice recognizer **210** may be decreased.

In addition, voice recognition errors may be reduced using only the background sound canceller **270** by setting the voice recognition start command word to a simple word capable of being easily subjected to voice recognition. However, since other control command words are longer and more complicated than the voice recognition start command word, it may be difficult to obtain a desired voice recognition rate only by cancelling background sound. Accordingly, in an exemplary embodiment, after it is determined that the voice recognition start command is received in the first voice recognizer **210**, the first controller **220** may decrease the volume of the audio output unit **122** to a predetermined level, thereby further improving voice recognition performance.

FIG. 4 is a block diagram showing a control flow of an image display apparatus **1** according to an exemplary embodiment, which further includes a command word generator **280**.

As shown in FIG. 4, the image display apparatus **1** may further include the command word generator **280** to allow a user to generate a command word.

The command word generator **280** includes a command word receiver **281** to receive a candidate command word from a user, a test unit **282** (e.g., tester) to test whether the received candidate command word is suitable as a control command word and a setting unit **283** (e.g., setter) to determine whether the candidate command word is registered according to the test result of the test unit **282**.

The command word generator **280** may generate all command words to be recognized by the image display apparatus **1** and is particularly used to generate a voice recognition start command word.

As described above, if a user-side audio signal includes background sound, voice recognition performance is deteriorated. In particular, if the volume level of background sound is significantly high, even when the background sound canceller **270** cancels the background sound, voice recognition errors may occur. If it is determined that the voice recognition start command is received in the first voice recognizer **210**, the volume of the audio output unit **122** is decreased to a predetermined level. However, since the voice recognition start command is received in a state in which the volume of the audio output unit **122** is not controlled, the voice recognition start command word may be set to a word capable of being easily recognized by the voice recognizer even when the volume of background sound is high.

More specifically, the user may register and use a new command word in addition to a command word which is previously set in the image display apparatus. If the user inputs a new command word through the first voice input unit **112** as a candidate command word, the command word receiver **281** receives a voice signal related to the candidate command word.

The test unit **282** tests whether the candidate command word received by the command word receiver **281** is suitably used as the voice recognition start command. In other words, the test unit **282** determines whether the candidate command word may be easily recognized by the voice recognizer or whether a predetermined voice recognition rate is maintained even when the candidate command word and background sound are simultaneously received.

## 11

The setting unit **283** determines whether the candidate command word is registered according to the test result of the test unit **282**. For example, if the voice recognition rate of the candidate command word is 80% or more as the test result of the test unit **282**, the candidate command word is registered as the voice recognition start command word and is transmitted to the first voice recognizer **210**. Thereafter, if the registered command word is received through the first voice input unit **112**, the first voice recognizer **210** recognizes the received command word as the voice recognition start command word and sends a signal to the first controller **220**.

If the user inputs and registers a plurality of candidate command words, a command related to command word selection may be received from the user and the command word according to the selection command of the user may be set as the voice recognition start command word. If the plurality of command words is registered as the voice recognition start command word, the first voice recognizer **210** determines that the voice recognition start command is received if any one of the plurality of command words is received through the first voice input unit **112**.

FIG. 5 is a diagram showing the appearance of a remote controller **300** included in an image display apparatus **1** according to an exemplary embodiment.

Referring to FIG. 5, the remote controller **300** includes input buttons **320** to receive a control command of a user through touch or button manipulation, and a second voice input unit **312** (e.g., second voice inputter) (see FIG. 6) to receive a control command of a user through voice.

The input button **320** includes a power button **321** to power the image display apparatus **1** on or off, a volume control button **323** to control the volume of the audio signal output from the image display apparatus **1**, a channel change button **325** to change a channel of a broadcast displayed through the image display apparatus **1**, and a voice recognition button **327** to receive a voice recognition start command.

The input button **320** may include a switch such as a button-type switch or a membrane switch or a touch pad to sense touch of a part of a user's body. The switch and the touch pad may be used interchangeably. For example, the power button **321**, the volume control button **323**, and the channel change button **325** which are frequently used by the user may employ a touch pad and the voice recognition button **327** may employ a membrane switch.

The second voice input unit **312** receives a voice signal related to a control command from the user. The second voice input unit **312** may include a microphone to convert a sound wave into an electrical signal and may further include an amplifier to amplify the received voice signal and an analog/digital (A/D) converter to convert the voice signal into a digital signal.

FIG. 6 is a block diagram showing the control flow of the remote controller **300** included in the image display apparatus **1** according to an exemplary embodiment.

Referring to FIG. 6, the remote controller **300** includes an input button **320** to receive a control command from the user through touch or button manipulation, a second voice input unit **312** to receive a control command from the user through voice, a second voice recognizer **410** to identify a control command from the voice signal received through the second voice input unit **312**, a second communication unit **460** (e.g., second communicator) to transmit a control signal to the image display apparatus main body **110**, and a second controller **420** to control an overall operation of the remote controller **300**.

## 12

The input button **320** and the second voice input unit **312** have been described with reference to FIG. 5 and thus a description thereof will be omitted herein.

The second communication unit **460** transmits a control signal to the image display apparatus main body **100**. The second communication unit **460** may employ a wireless communication scheme such as a Wi-Fi communication scheme, a Bluetooth communication scheme, a ZigBee communication scheme, etc., or may employ a relatively simple infrared communication scheme.

The second controller **420** controls the second communication unit **460** according to the control command received through the input button **320** or the second voice recognizer **410** and transmits a control signal to the image display apparatus main body **100**. More specifically, if an audio increase/decrease command or a channel change command is received through the input button **320**, the audio increase/decrease command or the channel change command is transmitted to the image display apparatus main body **100** through the second communication unit **460**.

If the voice recognition start command is received through the voice recognition button **327** provided in the input button **320**, the voice recognition start command is transmitted to the image display apparatus main body **100** and a control command identified by the second voice recognizer **410** is transmitted to the image display apparatus main body **100** through the second communication unit **460**. The voice recognition button **327** to receive the voice recognition start command from the user may be provided in the image display apparatus main body **100**. In addition, the voice recognition start command may be received through a menu provided by the image display apparatus main body **100**.

The first controller **220** provided in the image display apparatus main body **100** may decrease the volume of the audio signal output through the audio output unit **122** to a predetermined level if the voice recognition start command is received from the remote controller **300** or may decrease the volume of the audio signal output through the audio output unit **122** to a predetermined level if the control command is received from the remote controller **300** through voice.

In addition, if voice recognition ends, the second controller **420** transmits a voice recognition end command to the image display apparatus main body **100** through the second communication unit **460** and the image display apparatus main body **100** returns the volume of the audio signal output through the audio output unit to the original level. Voice recognition ends when the user inputs the voice recognition end command through the voice recognition button **327** or when a control command to be subjected to voice recognition is not received for a predetermined reference time.

As compared to the image display apparatus main body **100**, since the remote controller **300** receives a voice command of the user at a relatively short distance, the remote controller **300** may not include a background sound canceller to cancel background sound. However, it is understood that one or more other exemplary embodiments are not limited thereto and the remote controller **300** may include a background sound canceller.

Hereinafter, a method of controlling an image display apparatus **1** according to an exemplary embodiment will be described.

FIG. 7 is a flowchart illustrating a control method of an image display apparatus **1** according to an exemplary embodiment.

Referring to FIG. 7, first, a user-side audio signal is received from a user through the first voice input unit **112** (operation **511**). The user-side audio signal may include a

## 13

user voice signal and an audio signal output through the audio output unit **122** of the image display apparatus **1**.

A determination as to whether the received user-side audio signal represents a voice recognition start command is made (operation **513**). That is, a determination as to whether the voice recognition start command has been received is made. More specifically, the voice recognizer **210** determines whether the received user-side audio signal matches a previously stored voice recognition start command word to determine whether the voice recognition start command has been received.

If it is determined that the received user-side audio signal represents the voice recognition start command (Yes of operation **513**), then the volume of the audio output unit **122** is decreased to a predetermined level (operation **515**). The predetermined volume level may be experimentally or statistically set in consideration of a voice recognition rate or may be set or changed by a user.

A determination as to whether voice recognition has ended is made (operation **517**) and, if it is determined that the voice recognition has ended (Yes of operation **517**), the volume of the audio output unit **122** is returned to the original level (operation **519**).

FIG. **8** is a flowchart illustrating the exemplary embodiment of FIG. **7** in greater detail.

Referring to FIG. **8**, first, a user-side audio signal is received from a user through the first voice input unit **112** (operation **521**) and a background sound signal is cancelled from the received user-side audio signal (operation **523**). The background sound signal may be an audio signal output through the audio output unit. An acoustic echo canceller (ACE) may be used to cancel background sound, receives a user-side audio signal as an input signal, and receives an audio signal output through the audio output unit **122** as a reference signal.

A determination **525** as to whether the voice recognition start command has been received is equal to that of FIG. **7**.

If it is determined that the voice recognition start command has been received (Yes of operation **525**), that is, if it is determined that the received user-side audio signal represents the voice recognition start command, a determination as to whether the current volume level of the audio output unit **122** exceeds a predetermined level is made (operation **527**).

If it is determined that the current volume level of the audio output unit **122** exceeds the predetermined level (Yes of operation **527**), the volume of the audio output unit **122** is decreased to the predetermined level (operation **529**) and, if not, the current volume of the audio output unit **122** is maintained.

A determination as to whether voice recognition has ended is made (operation **531**). The determination as to whether voice recognition has ended is made by determining whether the user inputs a voice recognition end command or whether a control command of a user is not received for a predetermined time. The voice recognition end command may be received through voice, manipulation of the input button included in the remote controller **300** or the image display apparatus main body **100**, or motion recognition.

If it is determined that voice recognition has ended (Yes of operation **531**), the volume of the audio output unit **122** is returned to the original level (operation **533**). If the volume level of the audio output unit **122** is equal to or less than the predetermined level and thus is maintained when starting voice recognition, the volume level of the audio output unit **122** is maintained even when voice recognition ends.

## 14

FIG. **9** is a flowchart illustrating a control method of an image display apparatus **1** according to another exemplary embodiment.

Referring to FIG. **9**, the image display apparatus **1** determines whether a voice recognition start command has been received (operation **611**). More specifically, if a predefined voice recognition start command word (e.g., "Hi TV," "TV," etc.) is received through the first voice input unit **112** provided in the image display apparatus main body **100** or if the voice recognition start command is received through the voice recognition button **327** provided in the remote controller **300** or the voice recognition button provided in the image display apparatus main body **100**, the image display apparatus **1** determines that the voice recognition start command has been received and enters the voice recognition mode. In addition, if voice having a predetermined volume or more is received through the second voice input unit **312** provided in the remote controller **300** or the first voice input unit **112** provided in the image display apparatus main body **100**, the image display apparatus **1** determines that the voice recognition start command has been received and enters the voice recognition mode.

If the voice recognition start command word is received through the voice input unit **112** provided in the image display apparatus main body **100**, the image display apparatus **1** cancels a background sound signal other than the voice recognition start command word through the background sound canceller **270**, thereby more accurately recognizing the voice recognition start command word received through the voice input unit **112**.

If the voice recognition start command is received, the image display apparatus **1** decreases the volume of the audio output unit **122** to a predetermined volume level (operation **613**). At this time, if the volume level of the audio output unit **122** is equal to or less than the predetermined volume level, an operation to decrease the volume of the audio output unit **122** of the image display apparatus **1** may not be performed.

Next, the image display apparatus **1** controls the broadcast signal receiver **230**, the content execution unit **240**, and the audio output unit **122** according to the voice control command of the user received through the voice input unit **121** (operation **615**). Control of the image display apparatus according to the voice control command of the user will be described in detail with reference to FIG. **12**.

Next, the image display apparatus **1** determines whether voice recognition ends (operation **617**). For example, if the predefined voice recognition start command word (e.g., "Hi TV," "TV," etc.) is received again or a predefined voice recognition end command word is received through the first voice input unit **112** provided in the image display apparatus main body **100** or if the voice recognition button **327** provided in the remote controller **300** or the voice recognition button provided in the image display apparatus main body **100** is selected in the voice recognition mode, the image display apparatus **1** determines that the voice recognition end command has been received. In addition, if a control command is not received from the user through voice for a predetermined time, voice recognition ends. Ending of voice recognition because the control command is not received from the user through voice for the predetermined time will be described in detail with reference to FIG. **10**.

If it is determined that voice recognition ends, the voice recognition mode of the image display apparatus **1** is released and the volume of the audio output unit **122** is returned to the original level (operation **619**).

15

FIG. 10 is a flowchart illustrating a control method of an image display apparatus 1 according to another exemplary embodiment.

Referring to FIG. 10, the image display apparatus 1 determines whether a voice recognition start command word has been received (operation 711). More specifically, if the predefined voice recognition start command word (e.g., "Hi TV," "TV," etc.) is received through the first voice input unit 112 provided in the image display apparatus main body 100, if the voice recognition start command is received through the voice recognition button 327 provided in the remote controller 300 or the voice recognition button provided in the image display apparatus main body 100, or if voice having a predetermined volume or more is received through the second voice input unit 312 provided in the remote controller 300 or the first voice input unit 112 provided in the image display apparatus main body 100, the image display apparatus 1 determines that the voice recognition start command has been received.

If the voice recognition start command has been received, the image display apparatus 1 determines whether voice having a predetermined volume or more has been received through the first voice input unit 112 or the second voice input unit 312 (operation 713).

If voice having a predetermined volume or more has been received, the image display apparatus 1 decreases the volume of the audio output unit 122 to a predetermined volume level (operation 715). That is, while the volume of the audio output unit 122 is immediately decreased when voice recognition begins in the control method of the exemplary embodiment illustrated in FIG. 9, the volume of the audio output unit 122 is decreased when a user inputs a control command through voice after voice recognition begins in the control method according to the present exemplary embodiment. Through such control, it is possible to ensure continuity of operation which is being performed by the user.

Next, the image display apparatus 1 controls the components included in the image display apparatus 1 according to the control command of the user through voice (operation 717).

Next, the image display apparatus 1 determines whether voice having a predetermined volume or more has been received again through the first voice input unit 112 or the second voice input unit 312 (operation 719).

If voice having a predetermined volume or more has been received, the image display apparatus 1 controls the components included in the image display apparatus 1 according to the control command of the user through voice (operation 717). However, if voice having a predetermined volume or more has not been received for a predetermined reference volume decrease time or more (operation 721), the image display apparatus 1 returns the volume of the audio output unit 122 to the original level.

That is, the image display apparatus 1 decreases the volume of the audio output unit 122 if voice having a predetermined volume or more is received after entering the voice recognition mode and returns the volume of the audio output unit 122 to the original level if a control command is not received through voice for a predetermined reference volume decrease time.

Next, the image display apparatus 1 determines whether voice recognition ends (operation 725).

FIG. 11 is a flowchart illustrating a method of finishing voice recognition if a control command is not received from a user through voice for a predetermined time, according to an exemplary embodiment.

16

As shown in FIG. 11, when the image display apparatus 1 enters a voice recognition mode, a standby time is initialized (operation 621) and a voice recognition end time is set to a first reference time (operation 623). The standby time refers to a time for which the image display apparatus 1 waits until a user inputs a control command through voice in a voice recognition mode. In addition, the first reference time refers to a time for which the image display apparatus 1 waits when a user does not input a control command after entering the voice recognition mode.

Thereafter, the image display apparatus 1 determines whether the control command of the user has been received through voice (operation 625).

If the control command of the user has been received through voice, the image display apparatus 1 controls the broadcast signal receiver 230, the content execution unit 240, and the audio output unit 122 according to the control command of the user (operation 627).

Thereafter, the image display apparatus 1 initializes a standby time (operation 631) and sets a voice recognition end time to a second reference time (operation 633). The second reference time refers to a time for which the image display apparatus 1 waits until a next control command of the user is received through voice after the image display apparatus 1 enters the voice recognition mode and the user inputs the control command through voice. Since time is consumed when the user inputs the control command and checks an operation of the image display apparatus 1, the second reference time may be greater than the first reference time. For example, if the first reference time is set to 30 seconds, the second reference time may be set to 60 seconds in consideration of the time for the user to check operation of the image display apparatus 1 according to the control command.

Thereafter, the image display apparatus 1 determines whether the control command of the user has been received again through voice (operation 625).

If the control command of the user has not been received through voice, the image display apparatus 1 determines whether the standby time exceeds a command request time (operation 635). The command request time refers to a predetermined time interval to request a control command from the user if the user does not input the control command through voice. The command request time may be shorter than the voice recognition end time, in order to request the control command from the user at least one time before voice recognition ends.

If the user does not input the control command through voice during the command request time, the image display apparatus 1 may output a message, e.g., "Please say a function," "Would you like to change channel?" or "Would you like to control volume?" through at least one of the video output unit 121 and the audio output unit 122, and requests the user to input the control command (operation 637).

Thereafter, the image display apparatus 1 determines whether the standby time exceeds the voice recognition end time (operation 639).

If the standby time of the image display apparatus 1, that is, the time for which the user does not input the control command through voice, is equal to or greater than the voice recognition end time, the image display apparatus 1 finishes voice recognition (operation 641).

FIGS. 12A-12C are diagrams showing a screen displayed on a video output unit 121 if an image display apparatus 1 according to an exemplary embodiment is in a voice recognition mode.

Referring to FIG. 12A, control related icons are displayed at the lower side of the video output unit 121 and a main

17

screen is displayed in the remaining region. Among the icons displayed at the lower side of the video output unit, a “power on/off” icon **121a** corresponds to control commands “power on” and “power off,” a “volume up/down” icon **121b** corresponds to control commands “volume up” and “volume down,” and a “channel up/down” icon **121c** corresponds to control commands “channel up” and “channel down.”

Although six icons corresponding to these control commands may be displayed in a related art display apparatus, the image display apparatus **1** according to the present exemplary embodiment may display only three icons to execute the six control commands.

If the user inputs a control command corresponding to power on or power off, a cursor displayed on the video output unit **121** is moved to the “power on/off” icon **121a** and power is turned on or off according to the control command. The remaining icons **121b** and **121c** may be manipulated using a similar method.

Although all contents of one icon are displayed in FIGS. **12A-12C**, only “volume” may be displayed with respect to a volume control icon, only “channel” may be displayed with respect to a channel control icon, and only “power” may be displayed with respect to a power control icon. The contents of the icon are not limited so long as the user can recognize which control is performed using the icon.

Power on and power off, volume up and volume down, and channel up and channel down may be executed in a toggle form. For example, if the user inputs a control command word corresponding to “channel up” through the first voice input unit **112**, as shown in FIG. **12B**, a cursor **121d** is moved to the “channel up/down” icon **121c** and the color of the “channel up/down” icon **121c** may be changed to red in order to distinguish between a channel up command and a channel down command. If the user inputs a control command word corresponding to “channel down,” as shown in FIG. **12C**, a cursor **121d** is moved to the “channel up/down” icon **121c** and the color of the “channel up/down” icon **121c** may be changed to blue.

As another example, if a control command word is received, an icon corresponding to the control command word may be flickered or, if a control command word corresponding to “channel up/down” or a control command word corresponding to “volume up/down” is received, a vertical bar may be generated in the icon to display a channel control amount or a volume control amount.

Although the cursor **121d** is displayed on the video output unit **121** in FIGS. **12A-12C**, it is understood that one or more other exemplary embodiments are not limited thereto and only the icon may be changed without displaying a cursor.

The image display apparatus **1** according to the present exemplary embodiment may change the icon using various methods in order to represent that the control command word corresponding to the icon is received. Icon change includes displaying a cursor in an icon. The embodiments of the present invention are not limited to the above-described examples.

Although only the icons related to power, channel, and volume control are shown in FIGS. **12A-12C**, icons corresponding to various control commands such as web browser on/off, mute on/off, etc., may be displayed.

FIG. **13** is a flowchart illustrating a method of generating a command word by a user in an image display apparatus **1** according to an exemplary embodiment, and FIGS. **14A-14D** are diagrams showing a screen displayed on a video output unit **121** if an image display apparatus **1** according to an exemplary embodiment generates a command word by a user.

18

In the present exemplary embodiment, a voice recognition start command word is generated.

Referring to FIG. **13**, first, a command word generation request is received from a user (operation **811**). The command word generation request may be received through voice recognition or through manipulation of an input button included in the remote controller **300** or the image display apparatus main body **100** or through motion recognition. The method of inputting the command word generation request is not limited.

More specifically, as shown in FIG. **14A**, first, the user selects a “command word generation” item among menu items related to environment settings. The “command word generation” item may also be selected through voice recognition or through manipulation of an input button included in the remote controller **300** or the image display apparatus main body **100** or through motion recognition.

Then, a candidate command word is received from the user (operation **813**). The candidate command word may be received through the first voice input unit **112** as a voice signal.

More specifically, as shown in FIG. **14B**, if a message, “Enter candidate command word,” is displayed on the video output unit **121** of the image display apparatus **1**, the user enters a candidate command word to be registered as a command word through the first voice input unit **112**. For example, the user may enter a short word “mic” as the candidate command word.

If the candidate command word is received, it is tested whether the received candidate command word is suitable as the voice recognition start command word (operation **815**). A short word capable of being easily voice-recognized is suitable as the voice recognition start command word. Therefore, it may be tested whether the candidate command word is suitable using various criteria and a voice recognition rate of the candidate command word may be measured.

More specifically, as shown in FIG. **14C**, a message, “Test is being performed,” is displayed on the video output unit **121**.

If the candidate command word is suitable as the voice recognition start command word according to the test result (Yes of operation **817**), the candidate command word is registered as the voice recognition start command word (operation **819**) and is transmitted to the voice recognizer. In an exemplary embodiment, if the voice recognition rate of the candidate command word is equal to or greater than a predetermined reference value (e.g., 80%), it may be determined that the candidate command word is suitable as the voice recognition start command word.

If the candidate command word is not suitable as the voice recognition start command word as the test result (No of operation **817**), as shown in FIG. **9**, another candidate command word may be received from the user or command word generation may end according to user selection.

More specifically, if the test ends, as shown in FIG. **14D**, the test result is displayed. For example, if the candidate command word is suitable for registration as the voice recognition start command, a message, “Registration Possible,” is displayed on the video output unit **121**. If the candidate command word is not suitable as the voice recognition start command word and thus a message, “Registration Not Possible,” is displayed on the video output unit **121**, the user may enter a new candidate command word again.

Although generation of the voice recognition start command word is described with reference to FIGS. **13** and **14A-14C**, it is understood that one or more other exemplary embodiments are not limited thereto and are applicable to generation of other control commands. The video output unit

19

121 of the image display apparatus 1 may display various messages related to command word generation.

In exemplary embodiments, if the control command of the user is received through voice recognition, the user says a control command without taking an action such as pressing an input button, thereby conveniently executing a desired operation.

In addition, the icon corresponding to the control command is displayed on the video output unit 121. For example, a “channel up” icon, a “channel down” icon, a “volume up” icon, and a “volume down” icon may be displayed. In particular, since the icons are for operation of the image display apparatus 1, the icons are displayed in a part of the video output unit 121 when a main screen is displayed on the video output unit 121.

Since the size of the video output unit 121 is restricted, the number of displayable icons is restricted. The image display apparatus 1 according to another exemplary embodiment may display one icon corresponding to a plurality of control command words in order to efficiently manage the area occupied by the icons.

While the above-described exemplary embodiments are with reference to a display apparatus 1, it is understood that one or more other exemplary embodiments are not limited thereto. For example, other exemplary embodiments may be applicable to an audio/video receiver, a set-top box, a stand-alone device, etc., which is capable of performing, implementing, enabling, or controlling voice recognition and/or audio output.

While not restricted thereto, an exemplary embodiment can be embodied as computer-readable code on a computer-readable recording medium. The computer-readable recording medium is any data storage device that can store data that can be thereafter read by a computer system. Examples of the computer-readable recording medium include read-only memory (ROM), random-access memory (RAM), CD-ROMs, magnetic tapes, floppy disks, and optical data storage devices. The computer-readable recording medium can also be distributed over network-coupled computer systems so that the computer-readable code is stored and executed in a distributed fashion. Also, an exemplary embodiment may be written as a computer program transmitted over a computer-readable transmission medium, such as a carrier wave, and received and implemented in general-use or special-purpose digital computers that execute the programs. Moreover, it is understood that in exemplary embodiments, one or more units of the above-described apparatuses can include circuitry, a processor, a microprocessor, etc., and may execute a computer program stored in a computer-readable medium.

Although a few exemplary embodiments have been shown and described, it would be appreciated by those skilled in the art that changes may be made in these exemplary embodiments without departing from the principles and spirit of the inventive concept, the scope of which is defined in the claims and their equivalents.

What is claimed is:

1. An image display apparatus enabling voice recognition, the image display apparatus comprising:

- a display to display a content;
- a communication unit to communicate with an external device;
- an audio output unit to output an audio signal; and
- a controller, in response to receiving a control signal from the external device, to activate the voice recognition and decrease an output volume of the audio signal output through the audio output unit,

20

wherein the controller outputs a message requesting an audio input for a voice command when an audio input as the voice command is not received from the external device during a first predetermined time after activating the voice recognition,

wherein the controller deactivates the voice recognition when the audio input as the voice command is not received from the external device during a second predetermined time after activating the voice recognition, and restores the output volume to an output volume before the voice recognition activates.

2. The image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the external device comprises a remote controller, wherein the image display apparatus receives, from the remote controller, the control signal and/or the audio input as the voice command.

3. The image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the message output by the controller comprises a message image displayed on the display.

4. The image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the message output by the controller comprises an audio message output by the audio output unit.

5. The image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in response to receiving the control signal from the external device, the controller controls the display to display at least one icon on the content being displayed, wherein, each of the at least one icon is capable of corresponding to one or more voice commands.

6. The image display apparatus according to claim 5, wherein

in response to receiving the audio input as the voice command from the external device, the controller controls the display to change the icon corresponding to the received voice command from among the at least one icon based on the received voice command.

7. The image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

in response to receiving the control signal from the external device again or receiving another control signal from the external device after the voice recognition activates, the controller deactivates the voice recognition.

8. The image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in response to a voice having a predetermined volume or more being received by the external device, the controller determines that the control signal is received.

9. The image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in response to receiving a candidate voice command word from the external device, the controller tests whether the candidate voice command word is suitable as a voice command word to be subjected to voice recognition, and

wherein, the controller registers the candidate voice command word as the voice command if the candidate voice command word is suitable as the voice control word as the test result.

10. The image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the second predetermined time is greater than the first predetermined time.

11. An image display apparatus enabling voice recognition, the image display apparatus comprising:

- a display to display a content;
- an audio input unit to receive an audio input;
- an audio output unit to output an audio signal; and
- a controller, in response to receiving the audio input through the audio input unit, to activate the voice recognition and decrease an output volume of the audio signal output through the audio output unit,

## 21

wherein the controller outputs a message requesting the audio input for the voice recognition when the audio input as a voice command is not received through the audio input unit during a first predetermined time after activating the voice recognition,

wherein the controller deactivates the voice recognition when the audio input as the voice command is not received through the audio input unit during a second predetermined time after activating the voice recognition, and restores the output volume to an output volume before the voice recognition activates.

12. The image display apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising:

a communication unit to communicate with an external device to receive a control signal;

wherein the image display apparatus receives, from the external device, the control signal.

13. The image display system according to claim 12, wherein in response to receiving the control signal from the external device again or receiving another control signal from the external device after the voice recognition activates, the controller deactivates the voice recognition.

14. The image display apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the message output by the controller comprises a message image displayed on the display.

15. The image display apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the message output by the controller comprises an audio message output by the audio output unit.

16. The image display apparatus according to claim 11, wherein in response to receiving the audio input through the audio input unit, the controller controls the display to display at least one icon on the content being displayed,

wherein, each of the at least one icon is capable of corresponding to one or more voice commands.

17. The image display system according to claim 16, wherein

in response to receiving the audio input as the voice command through the audio input unit, the controller controls the display to change the icon corresponding to the received voice command from among the at least one icon based on the received voice command.

18. The image display system according to claim 11, wherein in response to a voice having a predetermined volume or more being received through the audio input unit, the controller determines that the audio input is received.

19. The image display apparatus according to claim 11, wherein

in response to receiving a candidate voice command word through audio input unit, the controller tests whether the candidate voice command word is suitable as a voice command word to be subjected to voice recognition, and wherein, the controller registers the candidate voice command word as the voice command if the candidate voice command word is suitable as the voice control word as the test result.

20. A method of controlling an image display apparatus enabling voice recognition, the method comprising:

activating the voice recognition and decreasing an output volume of an audio signal output through an audio output unit in response to receiving a control signal from an external device;

outputting a message requesting an audio input for the voice recognition when an audio input as a voice command is not received from the external device during a first predetermined time after activating the voice recognition; and

## 22

deactivating the voice recognition and restoring the output volume to an output volume before the voice recognition activates when the audio input as the voice command is not received from the external device during a second predetermined time after activating the voice recognition.

21. The method according to claim 20, wherein the message output by the controller comprises a message image displayed on the display.

22. The method according to claim 20, wherein the message output by the controller comprises an audio message output by the audio output unit.

23. The method according to claim 20, further comprising, in response to receiving the control signal from the external device, displaying at least one icon on a content being displayed on a display,

wherein, each of the at least one icon is capable of corresponding to one or more voice commands.

24. The method according to claim 23, further comprising, in response to receiving the audio input as the voice command from the external device, changing the icon corresponding to the received voice command from among the at least one icon based on the received voice command.

25. The method according to claim 20, further comprising, in response to receiving the control signal from the external device again or receiving another control signal from the external device after the voice recognition activates, deactivating the voice recognition.

26. The method according to claim 20, further comprising, in response to receiving a candidate voice command word from the external device, testing whether the candidate voice command word is suitable as a voice command word to be subjected to voice recognition; and

registering the candidate voice command word as the voice command if the candidate voice command word is suitable as the voice control word as the test result.

27. A non-transitory computer readable recording medium having recorded thereon a program executable by a computer for performing the method of claim 20.

28. A method of controlling an image display apparatus enabling voice recognition, the method comprising:

activating the voice recognition and decreasing an output volume of an audio signal output through an audio output unit in response to receiving an audio input through an audio input unit;

outputting a message requesting an audio input for the voice recognition when an audio input as a voice command is not received through the audio input unit during a first predetermined time after activating the voice recognition; and

deactivating the voice recognition and restoring the output volume to an output volume before the voice recognition activates when the audio input as the voice command is not received from the external device during a second predetermined time after activating the voice recognition.

29. The method according to claim 28, further comprising, in response to receiving the audio input through audio input unit, displaying at least one icon on a content being displayed on a display,

wherein, each of the at least one icon is capable of corresponding to one or more voice commands.

30. The method according to claim 28, further comprising, in response to receiving the audio input as the voice command through the audio input unit, changing the icon corresponding to the received voice command from among the at least one icon based on the received voice command.

23

31. The method according to claim 28, further comprising, in response to receiving another control signal through the audio input unit after the voice recognition activates, deactivating the voice recognition.

32. The method according to claim 28, further comprising, 5  
in response to receiving a candidate voice command word through audio input unit, testing whether the candidate voice command word is suitable as a voice command word to be subjected to voice recognition; and

registering the candidate voice command word as the voice 10  
command if the candidate voice command word is suitable as the voice control word as the test result.

33. A non-transitory computer readable recording medium having recorded thereon a program executable by a computer 15  
for performing the method of claim 28.

\* \* \* \* \*

24